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Poetry.

COUNTRY SIGHTS.

Oh, come with me to the country;
Let us haste to the shady slope—
To the bright green fields whose fragrance yields
An odor of —Matchless Soap.

Leave the pestilent town behind you,
With its grime and its smoke and its ills;
And we'll bask in the sun where the rivulets run,
And revel in—Liver Pills.

There is nought like the calm of the country,
Far away from the din of toil,
For a drink of a measure of perfect pleasure,
Or some limpid—Cod Liver Oil.

For the worried and worn, as nature
No tonic is half so good.
There's a feast to the eyes where the poplar sighs,
And a plenty of—Infants' Food.

The daisies have pied the meadows,
And down by the river's brink
The forget-me-not blushes at the kiss of the rushes,
And beyond there is—Blue Black Ink.

There's a warmth in the glow of the sunshine;
There's a breeze in the quivering leaf;
And the cows are going to the milkmaid lowing,
Near somebody's—Fluid Beef.

But the sun is low in the heavens;
We must home ere the daylight cease;
And rejoice that the moon is eclipsed so soon
By some—Patent Candle Grease!
—The London Globe.

"AWFULLY GOOD PEOPLE."

I once knew a maiden, both blithe and fair;
She's dead now.
She had beautiful eyes, and beautiful hair.
She didn't spend all of her time at the glass;
She never chewed gum, like so many, alas!
She could serve up a dinner or scour a fork;
Could wash up the dishes or any such work,
And, on some occasions, could sensibly talk,
But she's dead.

There once was a man both handsome and brave—
He's dead, too.
He combined all the virtues good men should have,
Although he was known to be witty and wise
He spent not his time giving others advice;
He lived a good life, working hard every day,
And stayed home at nights, never went to the play;
He cared not a snap for what others might say—
But he died.

There may have been others of similar kind,
They're all dead.
They've left life and its troubles, clear, clear behind;
They're living in realms which are claimed to be fair;
They twang on a harp as they flcat thro' the air;
They've music and sunshine, ice cream every day,
Are enjoying themselves in 'most "any old way,"
And now they are there they are likely to stay,
For they're dead.
—Detroit News.

NATURE AND ART.

From the cold bosom of the earth
A little fountain sprang to birth,
Bubbling up to the open bound
To sparkle 'neath the blue profound.

Gaunt pines and vines in tangled coils
Held the steep mountain in their toils;
At morn the shadows fell across
Rocks that grew warm with mantling moss.

Eager its stony cup to fill
The runlet poured itself, a rill;
Fair on the stream the sunshine poured
The radiance of its golden hoard.

The streamlet hastened down the glade
Rejoicing at the noise it made,
Taking afar each hidden nook
With the wild cadence of a brook.

Above its bed, with diamonds set,
The pale green birchen covert met.
Thick on its marge the thorny brake
Grew for the shiny water snake.

And all was loveliness until
A fisherman came down the hill.
For such dull charms too proud and wise
He tortured worms and juggled flies.
—New York Tribune.

Miscellany.

SURPRISED THE COWBOYS

North Dakota Ranchmen and Their First Bicycle.

"Before the people knew as much about bicycles as they do now," the man who has lived pretty much all over the civilized world is quoted by the Detroit Free Press as saying, "there were some funny things happened. I'll never forget what occurred while I was visiting a friend of mine running a ranch up in North Dakota. A young college boy on a vacation came through there on a wheel, the first one the cowboys had seen. Their comments on the machine were amusing.

"'Wonder if the durned things bucks?' asked one. 'Rope a steer from that saddle,' grinned another, 'an' he'd throw you so far you'd never know where you lit.' 'Wouldn't be much good in Injin fighting,' declared an old timer, and a trim-looking young fellow that was the dude of the ranch announced disdainfully that he could go farther in a day on his broncho than the young fellow could on his wheel in a week.

"Tell you what I'll do, Dick,' I said to the boaster; 'I'll bet a hundred that he can cover fifty miles on his bike in less time than you can on your pony.' I was snapped up on every hand, even my friend expressing a willingness to tap my pile on that same proposition. I accommodated them all, as far as possible, and the race was arranged for next day. The send-off was like a Fourth of July celebration. A flying start was made over a straightaway course on a well-known trail, twenty-five miles and return. Dick was in his gayest attire, and when my friend gave the racers the word there was a fusillade of revolvers mingled with yells that must have reached the man at the turning post. Of course, Dick forged ahead on the start, and his partisans were just mad, yelling at me till my watch and pin went up against their accepted valuation. Things had quieted down, and we had done a lot of smoking, so that the time seemed short, when we saw my favorite coming on his wheel as though an electric motor was supplying the power. He was a humped-up rider, and no mistake. There was a strong disposition to question his claim of having gone every inch of the route, but when Dick came in, his mount in a complete state of collapse and Dick with both hands in the air above his head, the crowd wilted gracefully, and I had enough to buy a half interest in the ranch."

"DICK FORGED AHEAD ON THE START."

Just a Little Twisted.

Child of Eight (returning from school)—Mamma, we have been reading of such a beautiful time. I should not like to have lived then, and I am sure you would not, for people were tied to a leg of mutton, and after gunpowder had been put round, they were all blown up!

Mamma—Are you sure it was not a stake they were tied to?

Child—Oh, yes, mamma, it was a steak! I know it was meat of some kind.—Sunbeams.

A WOMAN'S REVENGE.

By Chas. B. Lewis.

Nancy Jones, as everybody called her, had been brought up to the age of 20 by a widowed mother. Owing to her masculine looks and deportment all the young men gave her a wide berth. It was said she had no womanly feelings, and the idea of her ever falling in love was laughed to scorn. And yet, only a few days after I saw her for the first time, that very thing happened. There came to the town of Stratford, as an employe of the bank, a young man named Charles Fletcher, and at their very first meeting, which was a business affair, the young woman was smitten with his good looks. Fletcher was 25 years old, and although flattered by the young woman's preference for him, was not ready to fall in love with her. Indeed, although in time he escorted her about and was a frequent visitor at her home, he denied that his intentions were serious. She, however, was determined to have Fletcher for her husband, and became so jealous of him as to excite public ridicule. In time he resented her bondage and sought to break with her, and it was this action which caused the tragedy I am about to relate. When the young woman became thoroughly convinced that she had lost her lover, she insisted that he visit her upon a certain evening, to have a "last talk." Fletcher had been guyed and ridiculed by his fellow-employes until he hated the name of the woman. He was willing to see her once more and have it over, but not willing that any of his friends should know he was going to the house. He pretended to call elsewhere to mislead them, and when something was laughingly said next morning he gave the name of a party he had called upon the evening before. Twenty-four hours later he was under arrest for the murder of Nancy Jones, and a hundred men were searching for her body.

Fletcher's story was straight and clear, but unfortunately it served to convict him. He had gone out to "Fern Castle," as the young woman had romantically named the few acres with its cottage, and had been cordially received. Miss Jones confessed freely that she loved him, but as willingly declared that since he was unable to reciprocate, they would part friends and continue to respect each other. Supper was served, and while being waited upon by the domestic Miss Jones made use of several singular expressions. She announced in abrupt manner that even if her life were threatened she was not afraid—that if she were found dead people would know who had an object in removing her, and other things of the sort. It was plain that she was talking for the benefit of the servant, and as she would offer Fletcher no explanation, he concluded that she had an attack of hysteria and was trying to throw it off. Soon after dark the domestic asked leave to go into town. The request was granted, and in the presence of Fletcher Miss Jones said to her:

"You may never see me alive again, Sarah, but if any one tries to murder me I shall fight to the last."

Such language startled the domestic, and she decided not to leave the house, but the spinster laughed at her fears, and bade her run along. Soon after her departure Fletcher and Miss Jones started out for a walk. It was a summer evening, and at Miss Jones's suggestion they crossed two or three fields instead of going along the paths. At the edge of a forest where they stopped to rest for a few minutes, the woman suddenly uttered several shrieks, and when chided by Fletcher, she claimed to have stepped on a snake. They returned home by a different route, and at ten o'clock he left her house and walked into town. They parted with a hand-shake and kind words and she walked a short distance with him. The girl Sarah returned home about midnight, and went to bed. When she got up in the morning she discovered that her mistress was not in the house—in fact her bed had not been slept in during the previous night. Thinking she might have been called away unexpectedly, the girl raised no alarm until afternoon. Then the story she told resulted in Fletcher's arrest. At first everybody scouted the idea of murder, but in a day or two all were satisfied with it. Fletcher had failed to conceal the fact that he had gone to the house. The domestic had overheard her mistress say that her life was in danger. She evidently stood in called down. This man was expected to accomplish great things at once, and he stirred the whole country up by finding a clue within an hour after taking hold of the case. He boldly claimed that Fletcher had conveyed the body to Stratford river, and had then driven back to restore horse and wagon to the owner. Everybody fell in with the idea at once, and as a consequence the river was dragged for miles until it gave up its last snag. The body was not to be found. The detective then suggested that the victim had been burned by a fire in the woods, but that was going too far and he was discharged from the case. Fletcher was arraigned at the assizes, and according to law he should have been set at liberty, but popular feeling was so intense that his case was adjourned to give the Crown more time to complete its search. A reward of £250 was offered to any one who should discover the body, and people living fifteen or twenty miles from the scene went about looking into ditches and beating up the woods.

I have not mentioned that Fletcher had relatives in London who were wealthy and influential. They believed in him from the first and employed counsel for him, and by and by a first-class private detective was sent down to work in his interest. People wondered what he could do, but he didn't worry over that. He started in by believing the young man's story. A photograph of Miss Jones was shown him, and he sized her up very speedily. Fletcher and the domestice agreed exactly as to the queer expressions Miss Jones had used—dragged in for the benfit of the girl. She must have been planning when she did that, and what more natural than to believe she was planning a revenge on Fletcher? She had suggested a queer walk after dark; she had shrieked out with needless energy; she had brought him home by another route. All these things counted with the detective, and all counted in Fletcher's favor. As a first step in the actual work of unraveling the mystery the detective drove to the several towns around Stratford, and in each case his business was with men who sold clothing. After a few days he found his clue. At a certain date, a week previous to the murder, a young woman of Miss Jones' description had bought a man's suit of clothes at a certain store, saying they were for her brother. It was a working suit, and now, as the detective began to ride back and forth across the country, he called at all the roadside inns and carefully looked over all the stable boys. Meanwhile Fletcher was taken sick with brain fever, and though given the best medical attendance he grew worse and worse and finally died. When first taken ill he declared his innocence of the crime imputed to him, and an hour before his death, when the coming of the grim destroyer brought him a lucid interval, he reiterated his declarations.

As the hearse containing Fletcher's body took its way to the depot to ship the remains to London for burial, the detective drove up to the county jail with a stableboy on the seat beside him. That stable boy, arrested at an inn sixteen miles away, was none other than Miss Nancy Jones very much alive in the flesh, though masquerading in male attire. She had plotted to revenge herself on Fletcher, and she gloried in the fact that she had caused him great trouble and driven him to his death. For weeks and weeks she had worked as a stable boy and her sex had been unsuspected, but it needed a detective with brains to find the clue to unravel the case. I do not recall the technical offense with which she was charged, but she was put on trial, convicted, and sent to prison for seven years. It was accounted one of the most singular cases in legal jurisprudence and it was the general opinion that had Fletcher lived and the woman remained undiscovered for a few weeks longer he would have been duly convicted and executed.

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WOMAN DEPUTY SHERIFF

Suffrage for women is playing some queer pranks in Utah. The latest surprise is the appointment of Miss Clair Ferguson to be deputy sheriff for Salt Lake county. The young lady entered the office of Sheriff Lewis last January as a stenographer, and received her promotion on June 22.

The mother of the young woman, Dr. Ellen B. Ferguson, was very prominent

DEPUTY SHERIFF FERGUSON.

in state politics during the last campaign, and she is very proud of her daughter, who, she says, "takes to politics like a duck to water."

Miss Ferguson is slender and fair, but seemingly young to hold such a responsible position. The deputy is far from the accepted idea of a hard-shooting Western peace officer, but then her duties will not be onerous or dangerous, the principal ones being the service of papers and notification of jurors.

When she qualifies she will probably ask W. J. Bryan to be one of her sureties.

Miss Ferguson was born in Provo and has lived in Utah all her life, receiving her education in the public schools and the university of the state. She has lived in Salt Lake since the year of her birth, and is very popular among the young people in the City of the Saints.

Timed His Drinks Better.

A minister in the Highlands of Scotland found one of his parishioners intoxicated. The next day he called to reprove him for it. "It is very wrong to get drunk," said the minister.

"I ken that," said the man, "but then I dinna drink as meikle as you do."

"What—how is that?"

"Why—ginit please ye, dinna ye aye a glass o' whisky with water after dinner?"

"Why, yes, Jemmy—merely to aid digestion."

"And dinna ye take a glass o' toddy every night before ye gang to bed?"

"To be sure—just to help me to sleep."

"Weel—that's just fourteen glasses a week, an' about sixty a month. I only get paid once a month, an' then if I take sixty glasses it wad make me dead drunk for a week; now ye see the only difference is ye time it better than I do."—London Daily News.

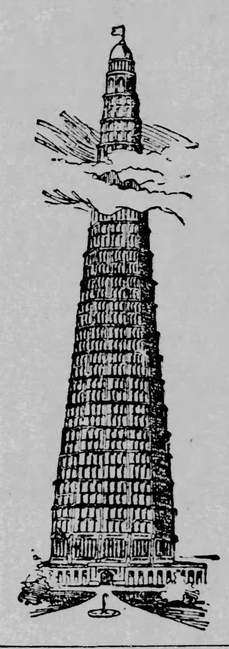
MONSTER TOWER PROJECT

William J. Frye has drawn plans for a proposed tower to commemorate the consolidation of greater New York.

The proposed tower, which is to be 2,140 feet in height, would be in most respects the most wonderful structure in the world.

The Eiffel tower in Paris is 984 feet in height, less than half of the proposed observatory tower for New York.

The tower is to be twelve-sided and built of steel. The lowest portion will be 300 feet in



diameter, and will be flanked by four pavilion buildings, giving the structure a base of 400 feet. The outer walls will be of cement, having wire cloth imbedded within that material.

Internally the tower will be a labyrinth of steel columns, girders, beams, plates, and other shapes in steel, no particle of wood being used in construction or finish, and when completed will be a white tower, absolutely fire-proof.

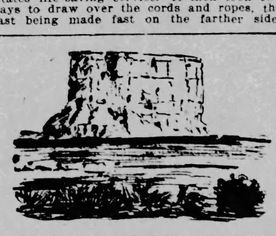
Directly in the center will rise a tube 20 feet in its outward diameter, and 10 feet in its inner diameter, extending up to and in through the dome roof. The inside of the tube will be smooth, and sightseers may enter through doors on the ground floor and look up through the tube, 10 feet in diameter and 2,140 feet in height.

Electric cars with reserved motor power of compressed air will run spirally around the 100-foot central area, making a trip to the fifth floor from the top, about a two and a half miles' ride. From this point to the top visitors will be conveyed in an elevator.

This proposed tower is to be built within the next three years, and somewhere up on the heights, where there is a firm, rocky foundation. The promoter and projector of this great scheme is E. C. Townsend.—New York World.

"MESA ENCANTADA."

The enchanted mesa, a famous rock at Lagune, sixty miles south of Albuquerque, New Mexico, has for the first time in the history of the white man been scaled. A party of three men, headed by Prof. William Libbey of Princeton university, reached the top of the mysterious eminence by means of a line shot from a gun borrowed from the United States life-saving service. It then took two days to draw over the cords and ropes, the last being made fast on the farther side.



NEW MEXICO'S ENCHANTED MESA.

Then Prof. Libbey made the ascent. As he approached the top he had to cling by one hand while, with the other, he disengaged the ropes of the chair, which had caught on the rocks. The rest of the party then came up. A new difficulty presented itself in the form of a chasm, which was crossed on ropes. No signs of former animal life were discovered, thus exploding the Indians' theory that men still inhabited the place. However, monuments of rocks, like those built by the Indians ages ago were seen.

Wanted a Wider Field.

A Georgia youth of literary tendencies decided that his talents entitled him to a wider field, says the Atlanta Constitution. Once in New York he would join literary clubs, form the acquaintance of great magazine writers and newspaper editors and get before the country.

He arrived in New York with eleven bright dollars in his pocket, registered at a modest hotel and went forth to conquer.

"Sorry," said the doorkeeper in the Harper's establishment, "but the editor can't see anybody."

"Blind, is he?" asked the literary aspirant.

The door was "slammed in his face," and he forthwith proceeded to the Century office.

"Mr. Gilder was on a fishing excursion with ex-President Cleveland and the other editors were spending the summer in Europe," was the information he received.

"Well, can't I edit the magazine while they're gone?" asked the irrepressible youth.

He was threatened with arrest, and left the building in disgust.

He next called at another leading magazine office, but was informed that the market was overstocked and "every department was full."

He resolved to call again when they were sober, and then he tackled the newspaper offices.

Mr. Bennett didn't want him because he couldn't speak French. Mr. Pulitzer said the World was in a corner, and he was merely feeling his way now, and couldn't reach out any.

Finally Mr. Hearst took pity on him and gave him an assignment to dive for Guldensuppe's head.

He accepted, and was arrested as a would-be suicide and locked up twenty-four hours.

The New York policemen relieved him of the remainder of his cash, and the hotel where he had first registered seized his baggage for board.

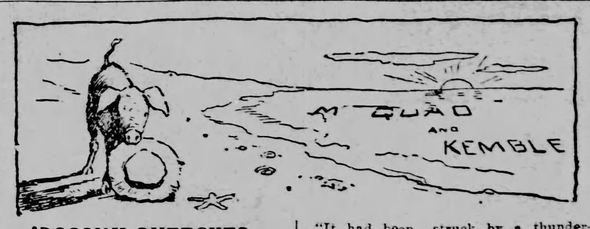
The news comes to his friends, however, that he has at last succeeded in obtaining employment in a Chatham street restaurant, where he is washing dishes for a living.

He now says that, while he wanted a "wider field," he didn't want one so durn wide."

Dead Easy.

"Bertie, you cruel boy, how can you hear your baby sister cry?"

"Way, that's easy—everybody in the block can."—Truth.



'POSSUM SKETCHES,

How Providence Helped Zeb White When He Needed Cash.

"We was mighty pore folks around yere arter the wah," said old Zeb White one evening as we sat by his fireside, "an' fur awhile most of us couldn't find no way to git along. I had cum home feelin' feeble, an' the ole woman had bin livin' on parched co'n an roots, an' how we was to git a start agin I couldn't see. Bimeby a feller cums up yere from Nashville and wants to buy coon skins, and the price never was so high, but I was that feeble I couldn't do no huntin'. Sich as did go out to hunt didn't hev no luck, and it was finally agreed that the coons had all bin skeared outer the kentry. One day me'n the ole woman was chawin' roots and talkin' things over when she looks up and sez:

"'Zeb White, Providence is everywhar', ain't she?

"'Reckon she is, i' the Bible is right.'

"'The Bible don't leave this yere Cumberland Mountings out, does it?'

"'Can't say it does, but I wouldn't blame her if she did.'

"'Wall, I reckon Providence must oversee Tennessee with the rest of the kentry, an' these hills ar' too high to be missed. If she watches over human bein's she also knows about coons, don't she?'

"'Stands to reason that she does, but what ar' you gwine to do? Providence ain't gwine to drive coons up to our doah an' hev them drap dead at our feet.'

"'Never yo' mind, Zeb White. Yo' jest sot right yere, and smoke and I'll take a leetle walk up the hill by myzelf.'

"I knowed what she went fur," said the old man as he rubbed his hands before the fire. "She believed in prayer the same as I believe in dry powder, and she was gwine up into the bushes to pray fur coons. Jest as she went away along came Hi Thompson, and when I told him what was up, he said:

"'Zeb White, thar' ain't any question same as the rest of the kentry, but she ain't in the coon bizness an' I'll bet on it. She's got heaps o' bigger things to see to, an' yo'r ole woman will only waste her breath.'

It seemed that way to me, too, but when she cum back I didn't say a word to discourage her. She looked happier than when she went away, and that night she woke up arter we'd bin asleep two hours to ax how much money twenty coon-skins would bring in at 90 cents each. I figgered it out fur her and she chuckled and went to sleep agin. Next mawnin' I was feelin' a leetle better, an' she advised me to take my gun an' look fur coons. I went up to the hill an' tramped around fur six hours, but thar' was no sign of coons. When I got home she seemed a bit disappointed, but arter a bit she sez:

"'Never mind, Zeb—mebbe Providence was busy and didn't h'ar me yisterday, an' I'll go up the hill an' put a leetle mo' power in my voice. Could yo' skin twenty coons in a day if yo' had 'em?'

"'I'd try powerful hard, but if sum was left over it wouldn't hurt.'

"'Want all big coons?'

"'Wall, if Providence is to send twenty coons they might as well all be big ones, as the cost won't be any mo' to her. The small ones kin be saved over to another sezun.'

"She went up the hill agin," said Zeb "and I heard her voice good and strong this time. I wanted to sorter wink at her, but she seemed so airnest I didn't want to hurt her feelin's. She talked in her sleep that night, an' I heard her figgerin' over an' over agin how much twenty prime pelts would cum to at 90 cents apiece. It was winter, with snow on the ground, but next mawnin' the weather was soft, with a look o' rain. I wasn't goin' to stir out, but arter awhile the ole woman sez to me:

"'Zeb, I reckon yo'd better go, but yo' needn't take yo'r gun along. Jest slosh around an' see if sunthin' don't happen befo' noon.'

"'How kin anythin' happen if I don't hev my gun along?'

"'Dunno, but Providence may bring about what I've bin prayin' fur. If I h'ar yo' hoot I'll cum along an' jine yo.'

"Bout an hour arter I left home," said the old man after throwing another stick on the fire, "it begun to rain, and purty soon I was both wet and mad all through. Thar' wasn't so much as a coon track to be seen, an' I got under the shelter of a chestnut-tree and prepared to cuss. I was gwine to cuss coons, possums, the wah, the ole woman and everythin' else, when thar' cum a flash o' lightning and a roll o' thunder to make me jump. Jist then the rain began to pour down harder, an' I sorter reckoned if I got hum all right I wouldn't cum out on no mo' tom-fool tramps. Down below me an' about ten rods away was a big dead tree, and I knowed from the looks of it 'twas holler. My eyes was on that tree when thar' cum another flash, followed by a crash. I was knocked down an' put to sleep like fur five minits, and when I sot up that ole tree was lyin' on the airth in splinters."

"It had been struck by a thunderbolt?" I said.

"Exactly, and it 'peared to be a purty clus call fur me, too. Bimeby arter the smoke an' dust had cleared away, I walked down among the splinters, and about the fust thing I saw was a dead coon. I hadn't fairly made him out when I seen another and another, and shuck my hide, sah, if the airth wasn't kivered with the varmints! That ole tree had bin chuckfull o' 'em, an' when the lightnin' busted the tree it also busted the coons. I was standin' thar rubbin' my eyes and wonderin' if I had gone blind, when the ole woman showed up and sez:

"'I heard the crash and knowed a tree had been struck, an' so I cum out to help tote the coons hum. How many do yo' make of 'em, Zeb?'

"'How many did yo' pray fur?' sez I.

"'Jest an even twenty, an' it seems like they ar' all yere.'

"'But how did twenty coons cum to be'in this ole tree, when nobody has seen even a track around yere for the last three months?'

"'Dunno, Zeb. I prayed Providence to send us coons—big, fat coons—an' if she crowded 'em inter a tree instead of a holler log or a hole in the ground we ain't gwine ter kick about it. Let's pick 'em up an' get 'em hum an' begin work.'"

"And was the number just twenty?" I asked.

"Wall, no, sah. Thar' was jest nineteen of 'em. Mebbe Providence couldn't find another handy by, and mebbe the ole woman lost her breath at nineteen and let the other one go. They was all full-grown coons, and every pelt wuth 90 cents in cash. I allowed that the lightnin' might hev damaged sum of 'em, but not a ha'r was singed. It took us two days to git the karkasses down to the house and rip the pelts off, but Hi Thompson heard about it an' cum over to look fur himself, an' more'n a dozen others cum arter him, and all of 'em said the hand of Providence was in it. Do yo' think it was yo'rself?"

"Do you?" I asked.

"I'm jest divided about it," he said as he scratched his head and gazed into the fire. "Thar' wasn't any coons about till I found them nineteen. The ole woman had prayed fur 'em, an' thar' they was. Looked like her prayers was answered, didn't it?"

"It surely did."

"But, on the t'other hand, Hi Thompson, Ben Williams, Abe Davis an' a heap mo' went hum an' went to prayin' fur coons an' 'possums an' b'ars, an' they got their wives an' daughters to help 'em. Sum prayed fur 20 coons in a dead tree, and sum fur thirty in a holler log. The news spread, an' all along this yere Mounting folks was prayin' fur bacon, co'n-meal, mewls, chickens, whisky, terbacker an' greenbacks. Fur two weeks most of 'em didn't do nuthin' but pray an' wait."

"And what came of it?"

"Jest nuthin', sah—nuthin' tall. Not a blamed critter even got a woodchuck's tail in answer to his prayers, and that's what makes me doubt. If Providence answered in one case why didn't she in the others? If she sent me nineteen coons, why didn't she send Hi Thompson two b'ars and a 'possum?"

"Zeb White," said his wife as she suddenly appeared in the kitchen door, "was yo'uns talkin' 'bout Providence an' them nineteen coons?"

"Yes, mammy."

"Well, then, yo' shet! We got the coons an' Providence sent 'em, an' anybody as doubts it kin go out an' sleep on a breshheap an' chaw roots fur breakfast!"

"And we winked at each other and "shet."

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"EVERYBODY WAS PRAYING FOR COON SKINS."

MR. BOWSER JUMPED IN.

THE BOWSERS' TROUBLES

Sunrise and Several Other Things Make Life at the Seashore Agreeable.

Just at daybreak on the fourth morning of their stay at Shark Point, two figures emerged from the Bowser cottage, and wended their way across the sands to the water. An hour after midnight Mr. Bowser had aroused Mrs. Bowser from a sound sleep to say:

"Look here, but what did we come down to the seashore for?"

"Goodness only knows," she feelingly replied.

"That's all nonsense! We came for our health, and what we want to do in the morning is to turn out and see the sunrise from the depths of the ocean, and then take a glorious dip in the briny."

"But our bathing suits haven't come."

"Never mind that. You can put on an old wrapper, and I'll belt an old dressing gown around me.

As soon as it was light enough to see, the pair were up and out, and as they reached the beach and the east began to purple, Mr. Bowser drew in a long breath and said:

"'Tis the coming of the king of day. We are now about to witness the grandest spectacle on the face of the earth. Watch the slow unfolding of the glorious tints! If an artist could catch and transfer those colors to canvas I would give him ten thousand dollars for the picture. Here we stand gazing out upon a body of water which stretches——"

"And there's that big hog again!" interrupted Mrs. Bowser, as a lonesome squeal was heard up the beach, and the beast could be seen coming down at a run.

"Never mind the hog, Mrs. Bowser. When the grand orb which lights a universe is about to show his face above the sea, it is no time to speak of any such beast. Behold with what rapidity the eastern sky——"

The gait of the hog was more rapid than that of the eastern sky. He seemed to have an idea that a corn-crib or a potato-patch might be found in the vicinity, and he came charging down with squeals of anticipation and hunger. Mrs. Bowser fled for the shanty with the hog at her heels and Mr. Bowser at the heels of the hog, and it was a pretty even race until the beast tripped and rolled over and halted to give utterance to a new set of squeals. This diversion permitted Mrs. Bowser to gain the house, and Mr. Bowser to arm himself with a club, and as he started back to meet the foe he called out:

"If this isn't the last sunrise that infernal hog lives to see than you can make my grave in the sands."

The perker didn't want to fight. He was after something to fill his stomach, but as Mr. Bowser jumped in on him, and fetched him a thump over the back he felt called upon to resent it. He made a rush with open mouth and carried away a big piece of the old dressing gown but after being knocked down two or three times he threw up the sponge, and went trotting up the beach, chewing a rag as he went.

"The idea that we should miss a sunrise on account of a miserable old crabfed hog!" exclaimed the panting Mr. Bowser, as Mrs. Bowser ventured out to rejoin him. "I'll get a gun to-day if I have to walk twenty miles to find it, and he'll never bother anybody else after I draw down on him once. The sun is up, but we'll enjoy our dip just the same. Take hold of my hand and we'll wade out. Now, then, I am going to give you your first lesson in the art of swimming."

"Wouldn't it be just as well if I stood on the beach and saw you swim?" asked the timid and shivering Mrs. Bowser, as she halted at a depth of three feet.

"No, ma'am, it wouldn't. That's one of the reasons that brought us to the seashore—that you might learn the art of swimming. Don't have the slightest fear as no possible harm can come to you. I seize you—this way—and I grab hold of you like this—and you float on the surface of the——"

But Mrs. Bowser didn't float. She was willing to, but as Mr. Bowser made ready for the circus he stepped on a clam shell and was thrown off his equilibrium, and both went down together, and rolled around over the bottom. She got up first and made for the beach, and stood shivering in the morning breeze when he waded ashore, and said:

"Did I ever try to teach you anything that you didn't play the mule over it? If you don't want to learn to swim, why didn't you say so, instead of waiting to bite and kick?"

"I didn't bite or kick."

"I know better! We came to the seashore for several reasons. The chief reason was the bathing. Here is a big ocean before us, and yet no sooner do I get you into it than you kick and bite and run out. I guess we'd better start for home."

Mrs. Bowser gave way under this threat and agreed to try it again, and as they waded out in the shallow waters he grew good-natured and splashed about and exclaimed:

"This is disporting this is—the real disport! It's no wonder that whales grow to weigh tons and tons when they have a whole ocean to swim in. Now watch me as I swim. See the motion of my arms and legs! It's a trick you can get on to in half an hour if you'll only think so. Let's try it again."

"You—you won't get mad at me?"

"What nonesense! Do you suppose a husband ever gets mad at his wife because she can't swim? Now get your arms ready to strike out while I hold you up. That's the way to do! That's it! Keep kicking and moving your arms. It won't be a week before you'll——"

Something seized Mr. Bowser by the foot. It might have been a crab in search of a novelty, or it might have been a mermaid whose morning nap had been disturbed, but he yelled out and let go of Mrs. Bowser, and went down with a great splash. When they finally crawled out of the water, gasping and choking, he jumped up and down in his wrath and stuttered:

"By the g-great h-horn spoon, but you bit and p-pulled my h-hair, and you can b-bathe in the wash-dish after t-this!"

He was intending to say more—much more—as soon as he could get his full breath, but Mrs Bowser suddenly scrambled up and set off for the cottage on a run. He turned and glanced up the shore and then started after her. That hog had fallen in with five or six others of his same breed and look and told them of his adventures, and all were coming down to have a high old time. It was a nip-and-tuck race, but Mr. Bowser got inside and slammed the door shut just two seconds before the first hog struck it with a bang.

(Note.—Mr. Bowser may have made a mistake in renting a seashore cottage at Shark Point, but he is a sticker and has other adventures and calamities ahead of him.)

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NOT SO GREEN.

The Brother Found His Demure Sister Was a Rooter.

The other day a Detroit youth who had come home from college for a vacation took his younger sister out to see a base ball game. She is a quiet, demure little lass, says the Detroit Free Press, with blue eyes and a timid manner, and she slipped into her seat in the grand

WASN'T THAT A HOT TAMALE?

stand as stadily as if she were entering the family pew at church.

As the game progressed he kindly undertook to explain to her something about its points so she would understand at least a little about it.

"Now the man is about to throw the ball," he said. "He is called the pitcher. The man with the stick in his hand is the batter. He will try to hit the ball, and if he does, he will run to that little bag which is called a base."

The young man's sister seemed to be quite interested, and listened attentively to his explanations.

Presently somebody hit out a two-bagger that went clear through the short-stop, and lit out for first like a wild turkey.

The young man began to explain.

"Now," he said, "if the fielder throws the ball to the man on the bag before——"

The young man ceased suddenly.

His sister had sprung upon her bench, grabbed his hat and thrown it into the crowd, and shrieked at the top of her voice:

"Yah, yah, yah! Wasn't that a hot tamale? Ss-ss-ss-ss-zz-zzz—get that short-stop a seive. Go it, Dempsey, you're a peach! Oh, Lord, what a daisy cutter! Get him a basket! Whoopee, don't that make your whiskers curl? Yah, yah, yah!"

"Sit down, sis," said the young man in a slightly aggrieved tone. "Why didn't you tell me you were a rooter?"

TEARS WERE FORBIDDEN.

A Note to Quit Meant That the Typewriter Was to Go.

She was a dainty little thing and the old gentleman appeared to be prepossessed in her favor right from the start, but there was evidently something that made him pause, says the Chicago "Post."

"Look here," he said, in his blunt fashion, "I like you and your references are all right. You run the typewriter as if you knew all there is to know about it, and you don't look like a girl who would be sick every third day and want to get away an hour or two early all the rest of the time, but before I engage you I want to have a clear understanding with you on one subject."

"Yes, sir," she replied, looking at him inquiringly.

"Of course," he replied, "I expect you will be perfectly satisfactory, but if you are not there must be no doubt about my right to discharge you."

"Certainly not."

"If I want you to go I'll just have one of the clerks put a note on your desk or leave it with the cashier for you and you're to take that as final."

"Naturally," she said, looking at him in some surprise.

"You're not to enter any protest or file any objections," he persisted; "and most of all you're not to weep."

"Why, I suppose I can ask you why"—

"You can't ask me a thing," he broke in. "If you get a note asking you to quit you're just to put on your things and walk out without a whimper or question of any kind. Is that understood?"

"It is," she replied.

"Have I your promise to live up to that agreement?"

"You have. But it is such an extraordinary request that I"—

"Young woman," said the old gentleman impressively, "I've been in business here for fifty years, and up to the time woman got a good foothold in the business world I was in the habit of engaging and discharging clerks as seemed to me best from the standpoint of my business. In an unguarded moment, however I was induced to hire a young woman to run a typewriter for me, and after I found that she wasn't satisfactory to me it took me over eight weeks to discharge here. I left a note on her desk and she promptly came in and wept on mine. I turned the job over to various subordinates but each time she came into my private office to do her weeping, and inside of a week she had the whole force wrought up to a point where business was being neglected, and she was still drawing salary just the same. Woman in business may be all right, but when it comes to getting her out of business somebody else can have the job. However, if you'll make a solemn promise to go without a single weep if you don't suit, I'll try you."

Parental Solicitude.

"Why is that man dragging that poor little boy along that way? Gracious goodness! he'll jerk the poor, weeping little fellow's arm out of the socket. What do you suppose is the trouble?"

"There's a circus parade up on the next street, and the man is probably afraid that the little boy will miss it if they don't hurry."—Cleveland Leader.

An Optimist.

She—"Do you think the world is getting better or worse?"

He—"Better."

She—"Why do you hold that opinion?"

He—"My wife's mother writes that she will not be able to pay us her customary six weeks visit this summer."—Cleveland Leader.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Sod Rings.

The original query concerning the origin of "sod rings," and the various answers thereto published, have excited much interest among The Blade's readers. Below will be found a number of letters on the subject, with our comments.

The first seems to us altogether the most probable. It is as follows:

"In Denmark are found the 'fairy circles,' formed in the same manner as the origin of sod rings, described in The Blade of July 26, and of the same family of grass. There they call the grass 'sterre'—first e sounds like e in 'berry, ferry,' last e like e in 'spade, blade'—the accent on the first syllable. The grass in the sod rings in Kansas is of the sterre family, but somewhat different from that in Denmark. The sod rings are of a bright green in the spring, turning gradually to a reddish hue, and growing to the height of only six or seven inches, and are found on uplands.

"The fairy circle grows in meadows or sloughs; the grass is of a dark green color, more coarse, and grows over a foot high; the seed grows on the flat blades, a half inch from the top points, and appears in small, irregular eruptions, almost in the manner of top onions, only very small—smaller than grasshopper eggs, which they nearly resemble in shape, the color being of a pale greenish yellow, which gradually turns brown and nearly black when ripe. I will leave it to some one residing in Kansas to describe the seed of the sod ring. There may not be seed on the grass of the ring, but the seed will be found on the grass in the center of the round plots of grass of the same variety of grass as the sod ring.

"One way of ascertaining the correctness of the statement that the ring grows wider every year is to drive several small stakes close to the outer edge of the ring, and several more on the inside edge. In a year or two the grass will show plainly that the ring is increasing its diameter. Another way will be to note the appearance of the sterre grass in a big ring, and from time to time one is apt to find smaller rings and small round plots of the same sterre grass. It would be quite interesting to have a small plot of sterre transplanted to some public lawn or place where it could be left for many years—being put on record year and date when planted, and by whom. It would take a hundred years to make a ring 14 or 15 feet in diameter, and then the people who knew its origin would regard it with great interest."—R., Seattle, Wash.

"The sod rings are formed by the prairie dogs. These little animals are very timid, and never venture far from their holes. They feed entirely on the grass that grows around their holes, pulling it up by the roots and devouring all but the top. When the grass is all gone within a radius of twenty feet from their hole, they hunt new pastures under cover of darkness, and there start a new hole. New grass takes the place of that destroyed by the dogs. This I have ascertained by actual observation."—M. A., Hainer, Ore.

It is obvious that this would make a circle, but not a ring. It is not a circle, within which the grass is different, but a ring—a band of grass from a few inches to a foot or two wide, within which the grass is the same as that outside the ring.

"The sod rings in this vicinity are nothing but rings formed by the wagon trains which went through this country in early days. Wherever they camped they drew their wagons up in a circle, with wagons on the outside and teams on the inside.

"These rings are formed by the horses tramping the grass, and that causes it to grow taller and more abundant than the native grass where the ground has never been broken. There is one on our ranch, and last year it was broken up and put into corn. Where this ring is the corn grew taller than on the other ground, and the same this year with wheat.

"Where you find a ring, you will usually see a space left for an outlet. There the grass does not grow as rank as on the rest of the circle.

"These rings are very common here, and every one knows what causes them. However, I do not say that this is the cause in every state. This is in our Black Hills country. I see you ask for the special variety of grass. It is here just the common wild blue grass, but it looks different on account of the tramping, that is all."—Mrs. R. M., Spearfish, S. D.

This cause, like the last, would not make a ring, but a circular area, within which the grass would be greener and ranker than elsewhere. It would not form a ring at all.

"I have lived here since 1871, and my attention was called to what caused the rings five years ago. I noticed in front of my house an almost round ring of dead grass (this was in June), four inches wide. On examination I found that a mole had made the ring. The next spring the grass being dead, and the ground being loose, the sunflower sprang up, and occupied the ring. The next year the saw-grass made its appearance and then the buffalo grass. In about six years the rings are gone."—R. C. Bellett, Wyo.

Moles sometimes burrow in a circular path, forming a ring; but ordinarily they make an irregular line. This would not cause rings of as large size as some appear to be. We do not consider the explanation satisfactory.

"I have been told by men who have lived in Kansas for fifty years, that the so-called sod rings were made by the buffalo wallowing on the ground to free themselves of flies. There are rings on my farm, from 20 to 40 feet in diameter, but none of them are round, but in half-moon shape; others long and of irregular shape. All of these wallows are lower in the center. Grass will not grow on them. The buffalo would wallow these wallows for years, and by so doing would eventually kill all life in the ground; hence no vegetation will grow on them. They will hold water in wet seasons, so the buffalo would wallow just like the hogs do in water in warm weather."—J. E. W., Independence, Kan.

This would not form a ring, but a circular or irregular depression. The sod rings spoken of are something quite different.

"I was in Kansas more than forty years ago, and saw rings, or circles, on the prairie, grown to weeds. They were called by the natives buffalo wallows, and said to be made by buffalo in wet times following each other around in a circle, stamping flies. I was also in western Kansas at the time of the Pike's Peak gold excitement, and saw the buffalo following each other around in circles, as described by D. M., Greensburg, Kan., in both wet and dry times, stamping flies, pawing, and sometimes hooking mud and dirt with their horns over their bodies, to drive off flies and mosquitoes. I would say that the buffalo lose most of their hair in the spring, which makes them an easy prey to flies and mosquitoes, to which they are very sensitive. The rings were very numerous, and probably long since have grown to grass of a kind peculiar to such places, having jointed roots. It sends up a sprout from each joint, similar to blue grass, of which it is a species. I would advise interested parties not to plant it, as it is better to imagine than to realize what it is."—W. G. B., Brant Lake, S. D.

"I have been, in the West over forty years, and my Yankee curiosity was attracted to the sod rings soon after I came here. The first one was out on the prairie, in a plowed field, just after a thunder-shower. I had just harrowed the ground for corn. The ring was a perfect circle, about ten feet in circumference. The soil was in ridges on the rim of the circle, clearly defined.

"Next in order, on sod, I noticed on wild grass a perfect ring of the same grass, but of darker color and ranker growth, limited to the rim of the perfect circle, which was about fifteen feet.

"I had conversations with pioneers, previous to these questions in the Blade, about their experience and observations. One told me that he had helped to survey land in Nebraska in the 70's, and they were common; besides them, there were buffalo wallows, where it was the custom of these animals to paw the dirt to throw over their backs to amuse the flies; but he nor I ever saw anything like the sod rings. By the way, the ones I speak of were of recent occurrence."—Yankee Joe, Percival, Iowa.

The circular ridge just spoken of was probably a relic of the mound-builders. Ohio has hundreds of these circles, from ten to fifty feet in circumference, the undoubted work of mound-builders.

"My theory, based on observation and on the observation of old hunters, is that the rings are formed by the action of the water. After a rain the water in the depression floats the rubbish to the edges, thereby forming a fertilizer, causing the grass to grow thicker, and forming sod rings."—Old Settler, McCracken, Kan.

But what forms the original circular depression on the surface?

"There were rings on my farm in Phillips county, Kan., where I lived 14 years. When I broke it up, and re-broke it, which is necessary for wheat, you could see a ring in the wheat, for it was so much larger than the rest. The soil is higher. A sod ring is on buffalo sod, and it is buffalo grass. There is no difference in the grass, only in size. The ring is simply a dark green strip of buffalo grass, much larger than the rest. I never saw a sod ring in any kind of sod except buffalo grass, and I have been over the prairies of Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado.

"I was always told that they were made by the buffalo cows, herding their calves to protect them from the wolves. Several of the cows would get their calves together, and would keep circling around the center; and I think that is the reason why grass or grain of any kind grows larger. The grass is the same inside of the dark green ring as it is outside. Stock of any kind will eat off that strip as close to the ground as possible."—B. O. R., Sargent, Mo.

Lord Byron.

"Please give me a sketch on the life and work of Lord Byron."—M. A. A., Fairmount, Ind.

George Gordon, Lord Byron, was born in London in 1788. The seat of the family was Newstead Abbey, a few miles distant from Nottingham. While a student at Cambridge, in 1807, he published his first volume of poems, called Hours of Idleness. This was sarcastically reviewed in the Edinburgh Review, which stung Byron into writing English Bards and Scotch Reviewers. Byron set out soon thereafter on a tour, visiting the shores of the Mediterranean, and sojourning in Turkey and Greece. He returned to England in 1812, and published the first two cantos of Childe Harold, which met with immense success, and at once enrolled him among the great poets of England. A six months' visit at Geneva produced the third canto of Childe Harold and the Prisoner of Chillon. He wrote Manfred and The Lament of Tasso in 1817. The next year he spent in Venice, and finished Childe Harold. During the next three years he wrote the first five cantos of Don Juan, and a number of dramas. In 1822 he removed to Pisa, where he worked at Don Juan—which poem, with the exception of The Vision of Judgment, occupied his pen almost up to the close of his life. Morally, his Italian life was unsatisfactory, and his genius tainted by his indulgences.

The Greek revolution enlisted his sympathies, and he went to aid the Greeks with his influence and money, arriving at Missolonghi January 5, 1824. On April 9, while on horseback, he was caught in a rainstorm, and fever and rheumatism followed. Refusing, from mere willfulness, to obey his physician's directions, he died on April 10. His body was taken to England and buried near Nottingham.

Free Silver and Taxes.

"I am always glad to receive The Blade. The first thing I look for is the Question Bureau, but through all this last long campaign failed to find anything that why I am in favor of free coinage of silver. It is simply this that it will reduce my taxation about 40 per cent. The taxes on my place this last number of years, measured in wheat, runs from 30 to 120 bushels."—L. M., Sailsbury, Pa.

What are your taxes, measured in wheat, this year? Free silver would not reduce taxes. The bulk of local taxation is for improvements, bridges, roads, etc., and for the maintenance of the poor. Under free silver, it would take more than double the number of silver dollars to do this that it now takes of dollars of gold value. The rate of taxation would be more than doubled just as soon as the necessary legislation could be had; the salaries and fees of county and state officers would be raised to a value in silver equivalent to the present gold figure. You may be alent to the present gold figure. You may be quite sure, no advantage would be reaped by you on that score. However, it is not worth discussing. The silver question is dead, and can not be resurrected.

John G. Saxe.

"Please give me an article on the life of John G. Saxe."—H. W., Fairmount, Ind.

John Godfrey Saxe, poet, was born at Highgate, Vermont, on June 2, 1816; died in Albany, N. Y., March 31, 1887. He graduated at Middlebury college in 1839, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in St. Albans, Vt., in 1843. He practiced law for several years with success. In 1847-48 he was superintendent of common schools, and in 1850-51 he was state's attorney for Chittenden Co., Vermont. He bought the Burlington Sentinel in 1850, which he edited until 1856. He was attorney general for Vermont in 1856, and was for a time deputy collector of customs. In 1859 and 1860 he was the Democratic nominee for governor of Vermont, but was unsuccessful both years. He then went to New York City, devoting himself to literature, and to lecturing. In 1872 he removed to Albany, and became editor of the Evening Journal, which place he held several years.

The Wheel Question.

"Is it not a fact that the top part of a buggy wheel travels faster than the lower part? Please explain why and wherefore."—Old Subscriber, Winchester, Ill.

The top of any vehicle wheel goes forward faster than the bottom, with relation to the ground; with relation to the axle, each part moves at the same rate.

To explain the first of these, it is only necessary to consider that the point of the wheel which rests on the ground is on the fulcrum, and the point of the lever farthest distant has the greatest motion. Hence the top of the wheel moves faster than the point resting on the ground. This means motion forward, not motion around the axle.

Foreign Eggs.

"A Populist here says there are no Canadian eggs sold in the United States, and hence the tariff will have no effect on the price; that Canadian eggs are larger, and sold by the pound, instead of by the dozen."—A. A. S., Altar, Sonn.

We have not the figures as to the number imported from Canada, but the bulk of foreign eggs come from there. The McKinley duty on eggs of 5 cents per dozen reduced the importation of 15,062,706 dozen, valued at $2,060,000, to less than 3,000,000 dozen in 1893. The Wilson tariff bill (1894) reduced the duty to 3 cents a dozen. The importation after enjoying a spurt upwards in 1895, has fallen ever since, and in 1897 stood at a lower point than has been reported. The total imports that year were but 947,132 dozen. The New York Evening Post, a free trade paper, speaking of this fact says: "It is not the duty that has given the results, but the increase of production incident to the development of a poultry interest." Ah! yes. But what caused the remarkable development of the American poultry interest? The duty on eggs, like that on tin-plate, stimulated American production until it was nearly equal to the domestic demand, and without exacting "tribute" from the American consumer. As a matter of record eggs averaged 11 cents a dozen, import price, when on the free list in 1890, and 11 cents a dozen in 1893 under a 5 cent duty.

Silver Certificates.

"Is a silver certificate a full legal tender? If not, please define the limits of its legal tender qualities."—G. E. M., Waterville, Mich.

Silver certificates are not legal tender. The law makes them receivable by the government "for customs taxes, and all public dues," but it does not make them legal tender between individuals, nor for any other purpose than those stated above.

Rare Coins, Etc.

M. P., Erin, N. Y.: Coin collectors pay 80 cents for the trade dollar of 1875. We are sorry to say we know nothing of the premiums on foreign coins, as few collectors in this country interest themselves in anything but United States and colonial coinage. The coin of which you send a rubbing appears to be Portuguese.

Ohio's Vote, 1896.

"What was the vote that the different Presidential candidates received in Ohio in 1896, and McKinley's plurality over Bryan in Ohio?"—E. and W., Goodland, Kan.

The vote of Ohio for President in 1896 was as follows:

McKinley, Rep.	525,991
Bryan, Dem. and Pop.	477,494
Palmer, National Dem.	1,857
Levering, Proh.	5,068
Bentley, National Proh.	2,716
Matchett, Soc. Lab.	1,167
Total vote	1,014,293
McKinley's plurality over Bryan	47,497
McKinley's majority over all	37,089

In 1896 the Populists fused with the Democrats, Bryan thus receiving their combined vote. The year before, Coxey, the Populist candidate for governor, received 52,675 votes. This year fusion did not go, and the Populists have again nominated Coxey.

No Guarantee.

"Please state whether the United States government, under free coinage, would guarantee or stand good for the silver money coined. I have a Democratic friend here who says the government will and does stand good for all silver money coined under a free coinage law."—L. C. O., Port Jefferson, O.

Your friend is wrong entirely. The silver dollars now in circulation were coined "on government account;" that is, the government bought the bullion, and coined it for itself. Whatever profit there was in this the government made; hence it is right that it should guarantee them.

But free coinage is "on private account;" the government stamps the bullion brought by the owners, and the coin goes back to them. No government guarantees the value of any coin under free coinage. It passes for just what the bullion in it is worth.

No Roll Call.

"Will you please give me a list of those men of both houses of Congress who voted for and against the so-called demonetization act of 1873?"—D. C., Fandon, Neb.

During all the time it was in Congress, there was no roll call on it taken at any stage. There was practically no opposition to the measure as a whole, because it was a revision and amendment to all previous coinage laws. There was no opposition by anybody, and in the many pages of debates over the measure there can be found not one word against the proposition to drop the standard silver dollar from the coinage; though there was a long debate on a proposition to coin a token dollar, with limited legal tender powers, the same as the half and quarter dollar, which was finally rejected.

As there was no roll call, there is no record of the names of those voting. All votes in Congress are viva voce, unless some member demands a roll call. It is the right of any member to do this. As none was demanded, it is clear there was no opposition to the bill.

The Blade's Age.

"I am a subscriber and a great admirer of the Weekly Blade. I see it was founded in 1836. Now that happens to be the year in which I was born. I am now 61 years old, and I see The Blade is in its 65th year, or volume. Please explain where I lost the four years."—G. L. A., Chase City, Va.

A volume is not necessarily a year. The Blade's first decade covered the hard times following the panic of 1837, and it changed hands several times during that period. Each new proprietor appears to have signalized the beginning of his ownership by starting a new volume. Hence this is The Blade's 65th volume and 61st year.

Nebraska's Vote, 1896.

J. O., Petersburg, Mich.: The vote of Nebraska at the Presidential election of 1896 was as follows:

Bryan, Dem.	115,762
McKinley, Rep.	102,292
Scattering	4,899
Total vote	222,953
Bryan over McKinley	13,470

Miscellaneous.

F. H., Neb.: A postmaster who has resigned has of course a right to request prompt release, stating his reasons therefor; but his bondsmen are liable until the department releases him and them.

J. T. Darlington, Wis. We should be glad to answer, but we have not the data; nor do we know where to obtain them this side of the Atlantic.

KLONDYKE PALACE CARS.

The rush to Klondyke has been the means of establishing a novel transportation line at Circle City, Alaska. Twenty sturdy bucks have been selected from the United States government reindeer herd at Teller's Station and are now on their way to the mining districts. This is the

ALL ABOARD FOR THE KLONDYKE.

first effort to press the reindeer into the practical commercial service of the civilized American; heretofore the Esquimau dog has been used in all expeditions through the Klondyke country. That the reindeer possesses tremendous advantages over the Esquimau dog is illustrated in the matter of their respective food. That of the dog must be carried, while the reindeer paws the snow from the roots on which he subsists.

New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.—Free to Our Readers.

Our readers will be glad to know that the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, has proved an assured cure for all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or by disordered action of the Kidneys or urinary organs. It is a wonderful discovery, with a record of 1,200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly upon the blood and kidneys, and is a true specific, just as quinine is in malaria. Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, testifies in the New York Christian Witness that Alkavis completely cured him of Kidney and bladder disease of many years' standing. Many ladies also testify to its curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood. So far the Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 418 Fourth avenue, New York, are the only importers of this new remedy, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of the WEEKLY BLADE who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney, Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. It is sent to you entirely free, to prove its wonderful curative powers.

EMILE ARTON TALKS.

Emile Arton, who was convicted of bribery in connection with the Panama canal scandals, before the Panama canal commission recently made sensational revelations regarding the way in which successive governments

EMILE ARTON.

had connived at his escape and silence, says a Paris dispatch to the New York Herald.

He said the Boulangists offered him a million francs for a document the making public of which would have resulted in the overthrow of the Loubet ministry. M. Loubet, he said, had also tried to obtain certain documents from him.

BALDNESS A DISEASE.

It is Caused by the Workings of a Microbe in the Scalp.

The New York Herald European edition reports that M. Sabourand is believed to have discovered the specific microbe which, directly or indirectly, causes baldness.

It has been thought that baldness is due to settled infirmity, but there are several symptoms of this diseased state of the scalp which indicate that it is due to microbian infection of a very active nature.

Our foreign medical correspondent states that at one of the last sittings of the Paris Societe de Dermatologie M. Sabourand exhibited a rabbit "into which he had injected the toxic liquid obtained from cultures of the seborrhoeic bacillus," and "this liquid, deeply injected under the skin and in the muscular masses of the animal, determined, without any other symptom, forty days after the innoculation, a general alopecia" (a diseased condition in which the hair falls off). The experiments now in progress seem to fully confirm the theory that baldness is of microbian origin. And M. Sabourand prescribes a pomade in which sulphur and yellow oxide of mercury are mixed with cade oil.

An Appropriate Quotation.

"I am writing a letter congratulating a friend on his engagement," said Tenspot to his bachelor partner. "Can you think of an appropriate quotation for me to put in?"

"Yes."

"What is it?"

"Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."—Judge.

Nervous

People wonder why their nerves are so weak; why they get tired so easily; why they do not sleep naturally; why they have frequent headaches, indigestion and

Nervous Dyspepsia.

The explanation is simple. It is found in that impure blood feeding the nerves on refuse instead of the elements of strength and vigor. Hood's Sarsaparilla feeds the nerves pure, rich blood; gives natural sleep, good digestion, is the true remedy for all nervous troubles.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.

BALLOON TO KLONDYKE.

AERONAUT LEO STEVENS HAS BEEN ENGAGED TO DELIVER GOODS.

Will Transport Food and Clothes in a Balloon Containing 125,000 Cubic Feet of Gas.

The last of this month, or the first of next, I expect to go to Klondyke in a balloon.

The terms of my trip are these: A syndicate of Fulton street, New York, business men proposes to ship provisions to Klondyke, and I agree to transport them there for him. I agree to get them there by balloon in three days, while he, journeying by sail, takes three weeks or three months to make the same trip. I am to go to Alaska with my packet and to return for another. I am to take as many cargoes as I can, and to receive a certain sum for each bale of goods I deliver in safety in the gold fields.

Need Food and Clothes.

As every one knows, they are freezing in Klondyke and starving. The sufferings this winter, after the Yukon becomes unnavigable, will be something terrible to contemplate. Where one man survives a hundred will perish. With gold in their eager hands they will fall to the ground faint for lack of nourishment and shivering for the warmth which gold cannot supply.

Any company that can succeed in getting food and warm clothes out to these miners this winter will make a fortune. The first man to land a cargo of sealskin coats, ready for wear, and a half ton of tea, whiskey and vegetables, will bring back more gold than any one man has been able to dig.

The proposal is to start from Chilcat with a balloon containing 125,000 cubic feet of gas. An assistant and myself will occupy the basket which is suspended below the balloon. Beneath the basket will hang the bundle of goods.

To manufacture this balloon there was purchased from a New York concern 2,500 yards of the finest silk, very light and very closely woven. These goods are very strong. The balloon is to be painted with a new gutta-percha mixture, which will make it as airtight as a boiler. The netting, instead of being the ordinary knotted cordage which wears and chafes, will be flat webbing. The advantage of such material can readily be appreciated. The balloon will be globe-shaped, with a neck seven feet long, which very nearly reaches the basket. About twenty-five feet below the car will be attached the merchandise.

We can easily carry 1,700 pounds of goods. The trip will take us between two and three days, and our provisions will be canned goods, beef and crackers lemons and apples. With these, which are nourishing yet not heavy, we can float with the winds for three days a triple coat of gutta-percha. This will make it as tight as a drum, and in five days I will not lose more than 2,000 feet of gas. This will leave me plenty for a descent and plenty in case of accident, in striking an adverse wind current.

The goods will be done up in a square bale to look not unlike a load of hay, only more compact. It will be attached to ropes and wires hung from a concentrating ring, until it swings twenty-five feet below the basket.

While we are waiting at the shanty we will attach the bale of goods and get ready to start. As soon as the right wind blows, or there are indications that it will blow, I will start up a specially constructed hydrogen gas generator which will manufacture 100,000 cubic feet of hydrogen gas in fourteen hours, so that in less than a day, sixteen hours, we will be ready for the start.

An Esquimaux Journey.

In making a trip into an unsettled country, famous for its cold, biting winds, we will take along a great plenty of furs and will dress at the start like Esquimaux. As we do not have to exercise, we can wear very heavy clothing.

For warmth our car or "basket" will be a light, hooked shanty, lined with felt and provided with outside curtains that can be hooked down. Small peep holes answer for windows. This car is one of the wonders of the expedition, for it has never, to my knowledge, been tried before. It is a house in the air.

Our line of travel will be with the wind straight for Alaska. Once there, we will land where we can, either in the Klondyke gold fields or on the Yukon or in Dawson, any place where there is a settlement and where we can make a descent.

The owner of the bale which we will carry is to go by rail as far as he can, as the quickest way. He will have to trust to finding where we are. He will look to finding us, and we, meanwhile, will return for another cargo, leaving ours in charge of some one.

I have made a great many balloon trips, but none that promised as much pleasure or profit as this one; and until you hear from me in Klondyke I am, yours for gold,

LEO STEVENS.

THE TRANSPORTATION CAR BUILT FOR LEO STEVENS FOR TAKING FOOD AND CLOTHING TO ALASKA.

NOTABLE PACING RACE.

One of the greatest races of the year was the meeting between Again, Star Pointer and Joe Patchen at Washington Park, and the picture shows the last named horse starting on his warming-up gallop. All three heats of the race were identical, and the story of one is the story of all. From a spectacular standpoint it was the greatest harness horse race between two horses in the history of the sport, as at no time during the race were they half a length apart. While McClary and Pointer had the pole, they allowed Ames and his black stallion to do all the rating. When Patchen went to the quarter in 30½ seconds Pointer did the same, and when he went there in 32 seconds the bay horse was no faster. At times the black horse would be on even terms, but always on striking the stretch Pointer would take a head and neck the best of it, and with Driver McClary sitting perfectly still, with a strong hold on his horse and his whip sticking straight up, he would maintain his short advantage to the finish, while the handsome black, encouraged by Ames' voice, his whip and the lines, struggled desperately, but hopelessly beaten, alongside.

Pacing at Washington Park.

Safe for the Time Being.

Enthusiast—Aren't you afraid to venture out on the street alone this way?

Baseball Umpire—Oh, no. The home team won to-day.—Cleveland Leader.

Where It Is.

Her sealskin coat's in paradise,
At least it's in a spot—
Unless she much miscalculates—
Where moth corrpteth not.
—Detroit News.

A Sine Qua Non.

Wieware—I wonder if old Goldsborough was as rich as they made out?

Widdles—How many widows did he leave?—New York Press.

HAD HE DEGENERATED?

The New Woman Objects to a Man's Dressing as She Does.

He had just appeared before her in his new spring outfit and was rather proud of himself, says the Chicago Post. But she only looked at him in a scornful sort of way, and finally said:

"I don't see why you can't have a little originality in the matter of dress."

"Originality!" he exclaimed. "Originality! What do you expect? Do you think I ought to come out here in the costume of a Fiji Islander so as to be different from the rest of the crowd?"

"Certainly not," she replied. "I would have you dress properly, of course, but that is no reason why you should imitate me."

"Imitate you!" It was only with difficulty that he could speak at all, his astonishment was so great.

"Yes," she replied coolly; "imitate me. Why do you persist in wearing bloomers?"

"Bloomers!" He glanced at his new golf trousers and then began to get really excited. "Look here! Who wore bifurcated garments first, man or woman? Who is the one who is doing the imitating? Have you ever seen me in skirts?"

"No," she answered in the same cool, exasperating way; "but it annoys me to note that your hat is almost an exact duplicate of mine."

"Oh, it does, does it?" he demanded. "You think I am encroaching on your rights when I put on a fedora hat, do you? Well, who wore them first? Just tell me that. Was the fedora hat designed for man or for woman?"

"Your shirt collar and necktie are so close an imitation of mine that I find it difficult to realize that you are not a woman," she went on coldly ignoring his question. "It is outrageous."

"When did you first begin to wear that kind of collar and necktie?" he inquired with forced calmness. "Look that up and compare it with the earliest times when these things were considered proper apparel for men. Did you ever see me with a ruching round my neck?"

"Then, too," she persisted, "there is the sweater and the jacket and the golf stockings and even the diamond frame bicycle. Why do you persist in riding a diamond frame wheel like a new woman? Why don't you ride a drop frame or any old frame that would be a little different and give you some individuality? Why do you get yourself up in every way to look like a woman? Why—"

But he had fled. He could stand a fair display of nerve but this was too much.

Told the Truth.

"See here. That horse you sold me runs away, kicks, bites, strikes and tries to tear down the stable at night. You told me that if I got him once I wouldn't part with him for $1,000."

"Well, you won't."—Detroit Free Press.

CADET GOES GOLD HUNTING

A little over a year ago young Russell Montgomery, son of a Portland (Ore.) capitalist, J. B. Montgomery, failed in his examinations at the Annapolis naval academy. The humiliation was too intense for the cadet and he disappeared, leaving no trace behind him. Nothing was heard from him till last February, when his parents received information that he was in a battery of Rivera's force, in Cuba. A few days ago a letter reached Mr. Montgomery from his son, in which it is explained that the boy is now in the famous Klondyke district, working with great success.

RUSSELL MONTGOMERY.

STEVENSON'S GRAVE.

The monument to Robert Louis Stevenson has reached Samoa and been set up on the wind-swept height where "Tusitala" was laid to rest. The inscription on it is the familiar epitaph, "Under the wide and starry sky," in English and Samoan.

SHOWING THE INSCRIPTION IN SAMOAN

—There's no question about it. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier. This is proven by its wonderful cures of blood disease.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Big Head in Horse.

W. A. B., Alabama: Osteo-sarcoma, or big head, is a disease which originates in the osseous or bony structure of the face and the bone degenerates into a cheesy substance. The disease seems to be more prevalent in the Southern and Western states than elsewhere, and it is impossible to give the direct cause. As the disease progresses the bones present a soft, spongy, or cellular appearance, the cells being filled with a substance like jelly. The bones of the face swell from the eye to the nose. There is no certain cure, but the following is said to have cured in several cases: Rub the swollen parts once a day with this: Mercurial ointment, 1 oz.; iodine ointment, 2 ozs. Mix well. Give internally at the same time one of the following powders night and morning: Calomel, 1 oz.; iodide of potassa, 2 ozs.; pulverized gentian root, 1½ ozs. Make into 20 powders. Keep the animal dry and the body warm while the medicine is being taken.

Hogs Costive.

J. M. C., Indiana: For costiveness in your hogs give freely of bran mashes mixed with linseed tea. Make no more of the mashes than the hogs will eat up clean, as if any is left over it may sour. If this does not regulate the bowels properly give an injection of warm water with a little soap in it. Give no corn for a week or two. In obstinate cases of constipation give each hog one oz. of Epsom salts in a bran mash.

In case of piles the mashes to ease the bowels are excellent. You should not have used sugar of lead. When piles protrude bathe with warm water. Grease after drying with sheep's tallow and gently push the protuberance inward. This is as good a thing as you can do.

Plants Thrown Out by the Roots.

Yanky Jo., Iowa: Did you examine the plants in the garden that were torn up and strewn about to see if they had not been cut off by cutworms. Electricity would not play such a prank among them. Bugs or cutworms are responsible for such things. Yes, electricity has been tried in assisting plants to grow. It was tried at the West Virginia experiment station, and it was to a certain extent a success, but it has never been tried on an extensive scale.

To Keep Horses From Peeling Bark.

F. W., Illinois: The editor knows of no way to prevent horses from nibbling the bark from fruit trees, excepting to take suits, nailing hoop iron on them, and making a circle of them around each tree. This does not cost much, as the thinnest of hoop iron will do. Another method is to wrap the trees with wire, but this is tedious and expensive. If the trees were washed with a decoction of quassia chips the animals would not bother the trees, as it is very bitter, and the decoction need not be strong. The trouble with this is that it is soon washed off by rains.

Chickens Fall Down.

A. H., Oklahoma: Your chickens that fall over and keep their eyes closed are suffering from apoplexy. The reason is that you feed them too much. Give each one a teaspoonful of castor oil. Give them plenty of grass and grit, and reduce their feed. Examine their throats for gape worms. If found take a feather and strip it until there is but little left of the feather. Dip the feather in kerosene, barely making it damp, and gently twist it in the windpipe. If worms are there you can twist them out, or a horsehair made into a loup will answer.

Ran a Nail In Its Foot.

R. T. T., Michigan: The fact that the wire nail had been in the heel of your two-year old calf for some time before you saw it, and that matter was on the nail, required prompt treatment. The treatment now indicated is to cut a funnel-shaped way in to the sensitive part in order that the pus may freely escape. Then inject a little carbolic acid and water—one part of acid to 20 of water. Next put the foot into a boot or bag of linseed meal poultice. Change this poultice once a day and examine the wound carefully. Where pus is found it must have an opening to escape. At every dressing apply the carbolic solution. In a bad case, where the matter spreads, the services of a veterinarian should be had, as it may be necessary to cut away to reach the pus, and the presence of a veterinarian becomes a necessity.

Lambs Die.

J. P. D., Ohio: Your lambs are troubled with pale disease or verminous bronchitis. Worms get into the air passages, the appetite fails and "pale disease" occurs. Lambs should be kept away from the same pasture with sheep, as the worms are the same found in the lungs and bronchial tubes of sheep, and a lamb cannot resist them like a sheep. Henry Stewart in the Shepherd's Manual gives treatment as follows: Linseed oil, ½ oz.; spirits of turpentine, 1 drachm; asafoetida, 20 grains. To be given in the morning for three successive days before feeding or turning to pasture, and no food to be given for three hours afterwards. Afterwards give the following: Molasses or honey, 1 lb.; flowers of sulphur, 4 ozs.; one tablespoonful to be given every morning for ten days. The food should be of the most nutritious and digestible character. If the appetite fails, the food, until the appetite returns, should be given by means of a horn in the shape of gruel oatmeal or cornmeal sweetened with sugar.

Lame Horse.

A. J. P., South Dakota: Blood and bone spavin is quite noticeable, but there is occult spavin which is similar to bone spavin, except there is no enlargement, and no external evidence of any lesion. As you feel sure that your horse is not affected with spavin, and that he is hip sweemied you should at once take off his shoe and thoroughly examine his foot. Do not take it for granted that there is no lameness there. If the lameness is in the muscles around the stifle joint, and they feel hot, begin by fomenting the part with warm water. Do this for half an hour each day for three days. Wipe the part dry, and afterward apply this: Mercurial ointment, 1 oz.; iodine ointment, 2 ozs. Mix well. Give internally at the same time one of the following powders night and morning: Calomel, 1 oz.; iodide of potassa, 2 ozs.; pulverized gentian root, 1½ ozs. Make into 20 powders. Keep the animal dry and the body warm while the medicine is being taken.

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Talmage's Sermon.

DEBT AND SKEPTICISM.

Two Terrible Foes to Man Pointed Out by Dr. Talmage.

New York, Aug. 16.—Dr. Talmage in his sermon for Sunday shows how running into hopeless debts and skepticism have undone young men in town and country. The text is Prov. vii, 22: "As an ox to the slaughter."

There is nothing in the voice or manner of the butcher to indicate to the ox that there is death ahead. The ox thinks he is going on to a rich pasture field of clover, where all day long he will revel in the herbaceous luxuriance; but after a while the men and the boys close in upon him with sticks and stones and shouting, and drive him through bars and into a doorway, where he is fastened, and with well-aimed stroke the ax falls him; and so the anticipation of the redolent pasture field is completely disappointed. So many a young man has been driven on by temptation to what he thought would be paradisiacal enjoyment; but after awhile influences with darker hue and swarthier arm close in upon him, and he finds that instead of making an excursion into a garden, he has been driven "as an ox to the slaughter."

We are apt to blame young men for being destroyed when we ought to blame the influences that destroy them. Society slaughters a great many young men by the behest, "You must keep up appearances; whatever be your salary, you must dress as well as others, you must give wine and brandy to as many friends, you must smoke as costly cigars, you must give as expensive entertainments, and you must live in as fashionable a boarding house. If you haven't the money, borrow. If you can't borrow, make a false entry, or subtract here and there a bill from a bundle of bank bills; you will only have to make the deception a little while; in a few months, or in a year or two, you can make all right. Nobody will be hurt by it, nobody will be the wiser. You yourself will not be damaged." By that awful process a hundred thousand men have been slaughtered for time and slaughtered for eternity.

Suppose you borrow. There is nothing wrong about borrowing money. There is hardly a man who has not sometimes borrowed money. Vast estates have been built on a borrowed dollar. But there are two kinds of borrowed money: Money borrowed for the purpose of starting, or keeping up legitimate enterprise and expense, and money borrowed to get that which you can do without. The first is right, the other is wrong. If you have money enough of your own to buy a coat, however, plain, and then you borrowed money for a dandy's outfit, you have taken the first revolution of the wheel down grade. Borrow for the necessities that may be well. Borrow for the luxuries; that tips your prospects over in the wrong direction.

The Bible distinctly says the borrower is servant of the lender. It is a bad state of things when you have to go down some other street to escape meeting some one whom you owe. If young men knew what is the despotism of being in debt, more of them would keep out of it. What did debt do for Lord Bacon, with a mind towering above the centuries? It induced him to take bribes and convict himself as a criminal before all ages. What did debt do for Walter Scott, broken-hearted at Abbotsford? Kept him writing until his hand gave out in paralysis to keep the sheriff away from his pictures and statuary. Better for him if he had minded the maxim which he had chiseled over the fireplace at Abbotsford, "Waste not, want not."

The trouble is, my friends, that people do not understand the ethics of going in debt, and that if you purchase goods with no expectation of paying for them, or go into debts which you cannot meet, you steal just so much money. If I go into a grocer's store and I buy sugars and coffees and meats with no capacity to pay for them and no intention of paying for them, I am more dishonest than if I go into the store, and when the grocer's face is turned the other way I fill my pockets with the articles of merchandise and carry off a ham. In the one case I take the merchant's time, and I take the time of his messenger to transfer the goods to my house, while in the other case I take none of the time of the merchant, and I wait upon myself, and I transfer the goods without any trouble to him! In other words, a sneak thief is not so bad as a man who contracts debts he never expects to pay.

Yet in all our cities there are families who move every May day to get into proximity to other grocers and meat shops and apothecaries. They owe everybody within half a mile of where they now live, and next May they will move into a distant part of the city, finding a new lot of victims. Meanwhile, you, the honest family in the new house, are bothered day by day by the knocking at the door of disappointed bakers and butchers, and dry goods dealers, and newspaper carriers, and you are asked where your predecessor is. You do not know. It was arranged you should not know. Meanwhile your predecessor has gone to some distant part of the city, and the people who have anything to sell have sent their wagons and stopped there to solicit the "valuable" custom of the new neighbor, and he, the new neighbor, with great complacency and an air of affluence orders the finest steaks and the highest-priced sugars, and the best of the canned fruits, and perhaps all the newspapers. And the debts will keep on accumulating until he gets his goods on the 30th of next April in the furniture cart.

No wonder that so many of our merchants fail in business. They are swindled into bankruptcy by these wandering Arabs, these nomads of city life. They cheat the grocer out of the green apples which make them sick, the physician who attends them during their distress, and the undertaker who fits them out for departure from the neighborhood where they owe everybody when they pay the debt of nature, the only debt they ever do pay.

Now our young men are coming up in this depraved state of commercial ethics, and I am solicitous about them. I want to warn them against being slaughtered on the sharp edges of debt. You want many things you have not, my young friends. You shall have them if you have patience and honesty and industry. Certain lines of conduct always lead out to certain successes. There is a law which controls even those things that seem haphazard. I have been told by those who have observed, that it is possible to calculate just how many letters will be sent to the dead letter office every year through misdirection; that it is possible to calculate just how many letters will be detained for lack of postage stamps through the forgetfulness of the senders, and that it is possible to tell just how many people will fall in the streets by slipping on an orange peel. The most insignificant event you ever heard of is the link between two eternities—the eternity of the past and the eternity of the future. Had the right way, young man, and you will come out at the right goal.

Bring me a young man and tell me what his physical health is and what his mental caliber, and what his habits, and I will tell you what will be his destiny for this world, and his destiny for the world to come, and I will not make five inaccurate prophecies out of the five hundred. All this makes me solicitous in regard to young men, and I want to make them nervous in regard to the contraction of unpayable debts. I give you a paragraph from my own experience.

My first settlement as pastor was in a village. My salary was $800 and a parsonage. The amount seemed enormous to me. I said to myself, "What! all this for one year!" I was afraid of getting worldly under so much prosperity. I resolved to invite all the congregation to my house in groups of twenty-five each. We began, and as they were the best congregation in all the world, and we felt nothing was too good for them, we piled all the luxuries on the table. I never completed the undertaking. At the end of six months I was in financial despair. I found that we not only had not the surplus of luxuries, but we had a struggle to get the necessities, and I learned what every young man learns in time to save himself, or too late, that you must measure the size of a man's body before you begin to cut the cloth for his coat.

When a young man willfully and of choice, having the comforts of life, goes into the contraction of unpayable debts, he knows not into what he goes. The creditors get after the debtor, the pack of hounds in full cry, and alas! for the reindeer. They jingle his doorbell before he gets up in the morning, they jingle his doorbell after he goes to bed at night. They meet him as he comes off his front steps. They send him a postal card or a letter, in curtest style, telling him to pay up. They attach his goods. They want cash, or a note at thirty days, or a note on demand. They call him a knave. They say he lies. They want hom disciplined in the church. They want him turned out of the bank. They come at him from this side, and from that side and from before and from behind, and from above and from beneath, and he is insulted, and gibbeted, and sued, and dunned, and sworn at, until he gets neuralgia, gets liver complaint, gets heart disease, gets convulsive disorder, gets consumption. Now he is dead, and you say, "of course they will let him alone." Oh, no! Now they are watching to see whether there are any unnecessary expenses at the obsequies, to see whether there is any useless handle on the casket, to see whether there is any surplus plait on the shroud, to see whether the hearse is costly or cheap to see whether the flowers sent to the casket have been bought by the family or donated, to see in whose name the deed to the grave is made out. Then they ransack the bereft household the books the pictures, the carpets, the chairs, the sofa, the piano, the mattresses, the pillow on which he died. Cursed be debt! For the sake of your own happiness, for the sake of your good morals, for the sake of your immortal soul, for God's sake, young man, as far as possible keep out of it.

But I think more young men are slaughtered through irreligion. Take away a young man's religion and you make him the prey of evil. We all know the Bible is the only perfect system of morals. Now, if you want to destroy the young man's morals, take his Bible away. How will you do that? Well you will caricature his reverence for the Scriptures, you will take all those incidents of the Bible which can be made mirth of—Jonah's whale, Samson's foxes, Adam's rib—then you will caricature eccentric Christians, or inconsistent Christians, then you will pass off as your own all those hackneyed arguments against Christianity which are as old as Tom Paine, as old as Voltaire, as old as sin. Now, you have captured his Bible, and you have taken his strongest fortress; the way is comparatively clear, and all the gates of his soul are set open in invitation to the sin of earth and the sorrows of death, that they may come in and drive the stake for their encampment.

A steamer fifteen hundred miles from shore with broken rudder and lost compass, and hulk leaking fifty gallons the hour, is better off than a young man when you have robbed him of his Bible. Have you ever noticed how despicably mean it is to take away the world's Bible without proposing a substitute. It is meaner than to come to a sick man and steal his medicine, meaner than to come to a cripple and steal his crutch, meaner than to come to a pauper and steal his crust, meaner than to come to a poor man and burn his house down. It is the worst of all larcenies to steal the Bible which has been crutch and medicine and food and eternal home to so many. What a generous and magnanimous business infidelity has gone into! This splitting up of lifeboats, and taking away of fire escapes, and extinguishing of lighthouses. I come out and I say to such people, "What are you doing all this for?" "Oh," they say, "just for fun." It is such fun to see Christians try to hold on to their Bibles! Many of them have lost loved ones, and have been told that there is a resurrection, and it is such fun to tell them there will be no resurrection! Many of them have believed that Christ came to carry the burdens and to heal the wounds of the world, and it is such fun to tell them they will have to be their own saviour! Think of the meanest thing you ever heard of, then go down a thousand feet beneath it, and you will find yourself at the top of a stairs a hundred miles long; go down to the bottom of the stairs, and you will find a ladder a thousand miles long; then go to the foot of the ladder and look off a precipice half as far as from here to China, and you will find the headquarters of the meanness that would rob this world of its only comfort in life, its only peace in death, and its only hope for immortality. Slaughter a young man's faith in God, and there is not much more left to slaughter. Now, what has become of the slaughtered? Well, some of them are in their father's or mother's house, broken down in health, waiting to die; others are in the hospital, others are in the cemetery, or, rather their bodies are, for their souls have gone on to retribution. Not much prospect for a young man who started with good health, and good education, and a Christian example set him, and opportunity of usefulness, who gathered all his treasures and put them in one box and then dropped it into the sea.

Now, how is this wholesale slaughter to be stopped? There is not a person who is not interested in that question. The object of my sermon is to put a weapon into each of your hands for your own defense. Wait not for Young Men's Christian associations to protect you. Appealing to God for help, take care of yourself.

First, have a room somewhere that you can call your own. Whether it be the back parlor of a fashionable boarding house, or a room in the fourth story of a cheap lodging house, I care not. Only have that one room your fortress. Let not the dissipater or unclean step over the threshold. If they come up the long flight of stairs and knock at the door, meet them face to face and kindly, yet firmly refuse them admittance. Have a few family portraits on the wall, if you brought them with you from your country home. Have a Bible on the stand. If you can afford it and can play on one, have an instrument of music—harp or flute, or cornet or melodeon, or violin or piano. Every morning before you leave that room, pray. Every night after you come home in that room, pray. Make that room your Gibraltar. Let no bad book or newspaper come into that room any more than you would allow a cobra to coil on your table.

Take care of yourself. Nobody else will take care of you. Your help will not come up two or three or four flights of stairs; your help will come through the roof, down from heaven, from that God who in six thousand years of the world's history never betrayed a young man who tried to be good and a Christian. Let me say in regard to your adversities, incidentally, in passing, that you are one in a level now with those who are finally to succeed. Mark my words, young man, and think of it thirty years from now. You will find that those who thirty years from now are the millionaires of this country, who are the strong merchants of the country, who are the great philanthropists of the country—mightiest in church and state—are this morning on a level with you, not an inch above, and you in straitened circumstances now.

Herschel earned his living by playing a violin at parties, and in the interstices of the play he would go out and look up at the midnight heavens, the fields of his immortal conquest. George Stephenson got from being the foreman in a colliery to be the most renowned of the world's engineers. No outfit, no capital to start with! Young man, go down to the library and get some books and read of the wonderful mechanism God gave you in your hand, in your foot, in your eye, in your ear, and then ask some doctor to take you into the dissecting room and illustrate to you what you have read about, and never again commit the blasphemy of saying you have no capital to start with. Equipped! Why, the poorest young man is equipped as only the God of the whole universe could afford to equip him. Then his body—a very poor affair as compared with his wonderful soul—oh, that is what makes me solicitous. I am not so much anxious about you, young man, because you have so little to do with, as I am anxious about you because you have so much to risk, and lose or gain.

There is no class of persons that so stirs my sympathies as young men in great cities. Not quite enough salary to live on, and all the temptations that come from that deficit. Invited on all hands to drink, and their exhausted nervous system seeming to demand stimulus. Their religion caricatured by the most of the clerks in the store, and most of the operatives in the factory. The rapids of temptation and death rushing against that young man forty miles the hour, and he in a frail boat headed up stream, with nothing but a broken oar to work with. Unless Almighty God help them they will go under.

Ah! when I told you to take care of yourself you misunderstood me if you thought I meant you are to depend upon human resolution, which may be dissolved in the foam of the wine cup, or may be blown out with the first gust of temptation. Here is the helmet, the sword of the Lord God Almighty. Clothe yourself in that panoply, and you shall not be put to confusion. Sin pays well neither in this world nor the next, but right thinking, and right believing, and right acting will take you in safety through this life and in transport through the next.

I never shall forget a prayer I heard a young man make some fifteen years ago. It was a very short prayer: "Oh! Lord, help us. We find it so very easy to do wrong and so hard to do right, Lord help us." That prayer, I warrant you, reached the ear of God, and reached his heart. And there are a hundred men who have found out—a thousand young men, perhaps, who have found out that very thing. It is so very easy to do wrong, and so hard to do right.

I got a letter one day, only one paragraph, which I shall read:

"Having moved around somewhat, I have run across many young men of intelligence, ardent strivers after that will-o'-the-wisp—fortune—and of one of these I would speak. He was a young Englishman, of twenty-three or four years, who came to New York, where he had no acquaintances, with barely sufficient to keep him a couple of weeks. He had been tenderly reared, perhaps I should say too tenderly, and was not used to earning his living, and found it extremely difficult to get any position that he was capable of filling. After many vain efforts in this direction he found himself on a Sunday evening in Brooklyn, near your church, with about three dollars left of his small capital. Providence seemed to lead him to your door, and he determined to go in and hear you.

"He told me his going to hear you that night was undoubtedly the turning point in his life, for when he went into your church he felt desperate, but while listening to your discourse his better nature got the mastery. I truly believe from what this young man told me, that your sounding the depths of his heart that night alone brought him back to his God whom he was so near leaving."

That is the echo of multitudes. I am not preaching an abstraction, but a great reality. O! friendless young man. O! prodigal young man. O! broken-hearted young man, discouraged young man, wounded young man, I commend to you Christ this day, the best friend a man ever had. He meets you this morning. Despise not that emotion rising in your soul; it is divinely lifted. Look into the face of Christ. Lift one prayer to your father's God, to your mother's God, and this morning get the pardoning blessing. Now, while I speak, you are at the forks of the road, and this is the right road, and that is the wrong road, and I see you start on the right road.

One Sabbath morning at the close of the service I saw a gold watch of the world-renowned and deeply-lamented violinist, Ole Bull. You remember he died in his island home off the coast of Norway. That gold watch he had wound up day after day through his last illness, and then he said to his companion: "Now, I want to wind this watch as long as I can, and then when I am gone I want you to keep it wound up until it goes to my friend, Dr. Doremus, in New York, and then he will keep it wound up until his life is done, and then I want the watch to go to his young son, my especial favorite."

The great musician who more than any other artist had made the violin speak and sing and weep and laugh and triumph—for it seemed when he drew the bow across the strings as if all earth and heaven shivered in delighted sympathy—the great musician, in a room looking off upon the sea, and surrounded by his favorite instruments of music, closed his eyes in death. While all the world was mourning at his departure, sixteen crowded steamers fell into line of funeral procession to carry his body to the mainland. There were fifty thousand of his countrymen gathered in an amphitheatre of the hills waiting to hear the eulogium, and it was said when the great orator of the day, with stentorian voice, began to speak, the fifty thousand people on the hillside burst into tears.

O! that was the close of a life that had done so much to make the world happy. But I have to tell you, young man, if you live right and die right, that was a fame scene compared with that which will greet you when from the galleries of heaven the one hundred and forty and four thousand shall accord with Christ in crying, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." And the influences that on earth you put in motion will go down from generation to generation, the influences you wound up handed to your children, and their children until watch and clock are no more needed to mark the progress, because time itself shall be no longer.

AN INDIAN GIRL'S FORTUNE

San Francisco has a peculiar case in its Superior Court, in which a 12-year old girl, who is half-Indian, figures.

A short time ago Capt. William Henry Brown, master and owner of the schooner Mary Brown, wrecked four years ago off the Alaska coast, died, leaving his little daughter to the care of Mrs. Helen Kuhl, of San Francisco. The child's mother, an Indian of the Aleutian tribe, is in Alaska. The captain left his fortune, estimated at $15,000, equally to his wife and his daughter.

Since her father's death Mary has been in charge of Mrs. Kuhl, who is now applying for letters of guardianship. Her petition is being combated by Donald Ross, the executor of the late Captain Brown's estate.

It was reported a few days ago that

MARY BROWN.

the child h s now disappeared, but it was promised that she would be produced when the trial comes up. Little Mary is now in charge of a Roman Catholic sisterhood.

PICKINGS FROM PUCK.

Farmer Honk—You are from Boston, ain't ye?

Summer Boarder—Yes, sir.

Farmer Honk—Wa'al, now, do you live in the Hub or out in one of the hubbubs?

"How did Jones lose his position in the weather bureau?"

"Why, he made seven correct predictions out of ten, and they thought he must be depending on guess work."

He—Does it make you nervous when I rock the boat?

She—Yes, but I should have remembered that all the—the people who rock boats—are not dead yet.

Charley Checks—Wouldn't yer like ter be an umpire, Sammy, an' get into all de games free?

Sammy Spots—Naw!—what would be de use? —dem fellers never see nuttin' uv de game.

Askins—What do you think will be the outcome when you propose to Miss Swift?

Teller—She is such a contrary girl that I am inclined to think she will accept me because I feel sure she will reject me!

City Niece (showing wheel)—This is a rat-trap pedal!

Rural Uncle—Well, now, that's a combination fer fair! But how does it catch the rats?

Not Much Luck.

"Are the fish biting well to-day?" asked a man of a boy who was fishing in a brook not far from Boston.

"The fish do not bite, sir," replied the boy, respectfully. "They swallow the bait, and the hook imbeds itself in their mouth; but I think they are very wary to-day, sir."—Puck.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

THOMAS HOOD'S HUMOR

HE WAS THE PROTOTYPE OF RECENT AMERICAN HUMORISTS.

Eugene Field's Debt to Hood—The Evolution of the Modern Joke Though Hood's Humor.

Once when I had complimented Eugene Field on a peculiarly bad joke by comparing it to one of Hood's best, he looked at me with the unfathomable seriousness he always assumed when about to assert the incredible, and without a tremor in his voice assured me that he had never read a line of Hood in his life.

"I have been told," he said, "that his style is like mine, and I am afraid I might be accused of imitating him."

It was a part of Field's humor to say things of this kind. He never meant to deceive with them. What he did mean in this case was that he had probably read every line of Hood left on record, had studied Hood's methods and had learned more from Hood of the secrets of striking expression than from all other English writers combined.

In this Field was by no means singular among American humorists. He is closer to Hood than any other American humor-

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS.
(From Hood's Own.)

ist, because he was a man of great native ability, having the same high and fine nervous organization, which in its action and re-action made Hood a writer of the most humorist as of the most pathetic verse in the language. But although few American writers have individuality illustrated these characteristics in their work as fully as Field did, it is broadly true that Hood is the real inventor of the American humor of the day.

This is by no means the only American humor of twenty years ago, or even of ten. Josh Billings, Artemus Ward, and all their imitators in bad spelling are out of date. No one reads a joke now because it is badly spelled. Mark Twain still holds his own high place as a writer of humorous books, but he belongs now to the libraries, and not to the street cars. It takes ten chapters for Sterne to come to the point of his shortest joke, and Thackeray is at his best when he has at least three. Mark Twain, if less diffuse, than these great masters of the past, still feels that to be really funny he must have room "to spread himself."

The American humor of the present is an appeal from this style. In its exaggeration, it tends to excessive suddenness and scrappiness. Very often the straining to reach the conclusion in the shortest possible way, snaps off the point and leaves the joke very blunt, indeed. But, on the whole, the modern joke is best for modern people, and it is especially suited for newspaper purposes.

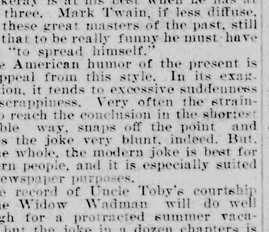
The record of Uncle Toby's courtship of the Widow Wadman will do well enough for a protracted summer vacation, but the joke in a dozen chapters is too much for the man who is coming down town in a crowded electric car, trying to read the paper while hanging to a strap. He wants to get at the point inside of four lines at any rate. If he does not, he must go without his joke for the day, and for many if not most livers, jokes are better than calomel.

To the modern American Hood's invention of the modern joke is for this reason and others a Godsend. Of course, the claim that Hood is the original inventor will be at once challenged, and as there is nothing new under the sun, there is room enough to argue on that side of the case. Hood's most strikingly original invention was the modern illustrated joke, now so familiar to all newspaper readers. It was in every sense Hood's invention, and yet if it had not existed before, if it had been wholly strange, the popular mind could not have taken hold on it all. As a matter of fact, it had existed for centuries on the signs of old English inns. Thus the sign of an ale house in Oxford street, London, consisted of pictures of a woman, a monkey and magpie, with the legend:

A monkey, a magpie and a wife,
Are the true emblems of all strife.

The English public had been prepared for Hood by reading signs of this kind from time immemorial. The fact of their existence showed a long-felt want, and Hood's genius seized the opportunity created for him by the hundreds of humorists, who, though mere sign painters, dying unknown, and filling ignominious graves, were his kindred spirits.

He had the fine nerves and delicately organized body which make it possible for genius to do its work, and curse it with such pain of life as only genius can feel. Bred for a clerk in a counting



"KIRKE WHITE."
(From Hood's Own.)

house, he broke down at the desk, and in the interim between this breakdown and his final choice of literature as a profession, he learned engraving.

This made possible the illustrated joke of "Hood's Own." It is a most unfortunate fact that many illustrated jokes of these later days are written to ready-made pictures at the rate of from 50c to 75c a joke. Under such circumstances, the joke must be made to fit the picture at any cost, the picture being too good to throw away and not fit for anything but an excuse for a joke. The strain on the mental and moral nature involved in writing this kind of humor, Hood was fortunately spared. As he could draw, he either drew his own pictures or knew how to suggest to others exactly what he wanted. It is singular that the faculty of drawing seems to be developed without effort as an incident of the development of certain other faculties—especially that of literary composition. It was thus de-

A CATARACT.
(From Hood's Own.)

veloped in Thackeray as well as in Hood. Victor Hugo had it. Von Moltke could make a sketch or write a ballad with equal facility, and to return to Eugene Field, it would have been easily possible for him to have become at least as good a draughtsman as Hood or Thackeray.

Some of Hood's illustrated jokes are very far-fetched, indeed. Not a few of them are addressed to an intellectual aristocracy, supposed to know at least three languages and to be familiar with the history of 2,000 years. In others, the poet's habit of straining hard after puns is carried so far that it is almost as hard to get at his meaning as it is to work out a problem in Euclid; but on the whole he was a popular humorist in truer sense than any one in England had been before him. He was intelligible to at least 500 readers where Sterne had been to one. Among later Englishmen perhaps Du Maurier did most to popularize the Hood invention of duplicating the idea of a joke in words and in a picture made to accompany them. Du Maurier's work certainly did much to introduce this style of illustration in America, but nothing he has done or that has been done by any one else obscures the clearness of Hood's title to the invention.

It has been said that genius is a disease. In the same sense it may be said that Hood died of genius. As his nerves grew finer with the decay of his physical strength he began to develop the higher qualities which made him one of the immortals. These qualities came of sympathy for human suffering. It seems to be true that only those who suffer much themselves can understand the universal pathos of existence. It was noticed many centuries ago that the greatest work of great poets is often done when their bodies are weakening to dissolution. Modern physiology makes it possible to understand that there is some-

MAN WANTS BUT LITTLE HERE BELOW, NOR WANTS THAT LITTLE LONG.
(From Hood's Own.)

thing very real and deeply human back of the metaphor of the "swan song." It was so in Hood's case. When he found that he was dying, his work began to broaden out before him, and he saw that he had left undone in health what the world most needed he should do. His greatest poem was written when he was almost too weak to hold the pen. "The Bridge of Sighs" came from his death-bed. It was his Canonization—his heights of Abraham," says Thackeray. "Sick, weak and wounded he fell in the full blaze and fame of that great victory."

Perhaps there is no sublimer spectacle than that of genius wrestling with death for another hour of life in which to finish its work. It is strange that, beginning with Hood the Punster, we should come to the venerable Bede, the Saint, father of English literature and translator of the Gospels of Anglo-Saxon. He was on the last chapter of the Gospel of John when death almost overcame him. Resting, he asked faintly of his scribe: "Is the work done?" "Master there are yet a few sentences," was the answer. "Then write with speed," said the saint, and with his last breath he finished the work of his life. So died Hood also. It is hard to imagine a better death.—Haywood Landerdale, in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

HOW OSTRICHES RUN.

They Are Not Aided by Their Wings in the Race.

Considerable misconception prevails as to the manner in which the ostrich runs. It seems to be still generally held that when running it spreads out its wings, and aided by them skims lightly over the ground. This is not correct. When a bird really settles itself to run it holds its head lower than usual and a little forward, with a deep loop in the neck. The neck vibrates sinuously, but the head remains steady, thus enabling the bird, even at top speed, to look around with unshaken glance in any direction. The wings lie along the sides about on a level with or a little higher than the back, and are held loosely, just free of the plunging "thigh." There is no attempt to hold them extended or to derive any assistance from them as organs of flight.

When an ostrich, after a hard run, is very tired, its wings sometimes droop; this is due to exhaustion. They are never, by a running bird exerting itself to the utmost, held out away from the sides to lighten its weight or to increase its pace. But the wings appear to be of great service in turning, enabling the bird to double abruptly, even when going at top speed.

GIVES STRENGTH TO MEN

FREE TO ALL WHO ARE WEAK AND WORN.

A Method to Cure and Increase the Power.

It is a remarkable fact that a man never appreciates the suffering of others until he himself has passed through the fire of pain or remorse. Then it is that he looks around for those who are suffering; he wants them to profit by his experience; he gives his time

and money gladly for the benefit of others, and never tires of his zeal. There are plenty of men weak and worn out, struggling with remorse and fear, the natural outcome of habits that brought incapacity, a sense of lonesomeness and a feeling as if the best side of life had been banished forever. Such men should write to Thomas Slater, Box 2346, Kalamazoo, Mich. He will send free by mail, in a plain, sealed envelope, full particulars about the method he used, and this will enable any man to get a complete cure at home. It is the method that Mr. Slater used to cure himself of the troubles that sap the strength and vigor and also enlarged his organs to natural size. The cure was so complete, so satisfying, and such a wonderful change from his former condition that he will gladly tell others all about it, sending all particulars. He figures that he doesn't know of a better way to show his appreciation of his own cure and the sufferings of others. There must be generous men in this world to offset the tide of avarice. Write to Mr. Slater—it will cost nothing for his description and method.

The Sunday School.

LESSON 9—AUGUST 29, 1897.
Paul Opposed at Ephesus.

Golden Text: Take heed, and beware of covetousness.—Luke xii:15.

LESSON TEXT.

(Acts xix:21-34. Memory verses, 24-26.)

Read Acts xix:1 to xx:38.

21. After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

22. So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

23. At the same time there arose no small stir about that way.

24. For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;

25. Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.

26. Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods which are made with hands:

27. So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at naught; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshipeth.

28. And when they heard these sayings they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

29. And the whole city was filled with confusion; and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.

30. And when Paul would have entered in unto the people the disciples suffered him not.

31. And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

32. Some therefore cried one thing and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.

33. And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defense unto the people.

34. But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

Illustrative Applications.

Now after these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying. After I have been there I must also see Rome (v. 21.) There is a valuable suggestion here for every one of us—Paul had a definite plan of procedure. Macedonia, Achaia, Jerusalem, Rome—these places he would visit, and in their order. And he held to his plan. Circumstances considerably modified it. He reached Rome in a very different way from that he thought he should. But he reached Rome. He held to his main plan. The suggestion is that an overcoming life must be one organized about a plan. There must be definite purpose to which its various parts can be articulated. A haphazard, purposeless life can never be a much achieving life. It can only drift, like a mass of seaweed, the sport of winds and tides. Have some large, strong purpose in your life, and hold to it. They are building some houses near my house. I have noticed that each beam and brick finds its place according to the architect's plan. So will a plan for life organize, and prevent the waste of many days and deeds.

He himself stayed in Asia for a while (v. 22.) In his First Epistle to the Corinthians (16: 8, 9.) the Apostle tells us why he stayed: "But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost: for a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." That would keep him in Ephesus during the larger part of the month of May. And May is the month in which multitudes gathered at Ephesus for the games and spectacle in honor of Diana. Here the Apostle would have opportunity of bringing the gospel into contact with many of whom he could not otherwise touch, and through them, as they returned to their homes, scatter the news of it more widely. It was a good chance to seize for Christ. But it would not be an easy chance. Surely, at such a time, many adversaries would start up against him. But that would be no matter, if he could the more advantageously tell of his Lord. Let us take example of the Apostle. Let us not be on the hunt for smooth and easy places of service. Let us refuse to let difficulty daunt us, if amid difficulty, like a rose amid thorns, we can pluck honor for our Lord.

Concerning the Way (v. 23.) That is, concerning the way of the Lord's gospel. There it was, plainly pointed out by the Apostle's preaching. And some were turning into it, and some were refusing to do so. It is a very solemn fact that every soul of us must tread, in some way, either the way of the gospel or another. There the way opens, and each must decide whether he will or will not put his feet in it. The teaching of this lesson will be another opening of the way for many. And just keeping on in the old, careless, irreligious life is refusal to enter into the way of the gospel. The doom of life is choice. You cannot escape from it any more than you can escape from breathing. Let me press the question—Have you turned into the way of the gospel? Choose to do it now. Life or death hangs upon the choosing.

And not only is there danger that this our trade come into disrepute (v. 27.) Here is a good test by which to judge of the rightfulness of one's business. If it is damaged by the progress of the gospel, it is not a right business. If in the proportion of the advance of the gospel your trade or business lessens, get out of it at once. Do not seek to prop it, as Demetrius did; leave it. That man is in bad plight who, for livelihood, is setting his hand to that which flourishes best where there is the least gospel.

But also that the temple of the great goddess Diana be made of no account. It is easy to cloak selfishness in the garment of religion. I have known of men who gave largely to religious objects from ill-gotten gains, as attempting to salve their consciences in allowing themselves in such gains. Poor makeshift and subterfuge! It is soiled money still, though it be lavishly given. In the sight of Him who sits over against the treasury-boxes, and who estimates things according to their motive, the two mites of the poor widow outweighs tons of gold so gotten and so given. "God sees hearts as men do faces," says Thomas a Kempis.

And when Paul was minded to enter in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not. And certain also of the chief officers of Asia, being his friends, sent unto him, and besought him not to adventure himself into the theatre (vs. 30, 31.) The Apostle was brave, but not rash. Bravery will dare, and at the same time listen to reason and estimate consequences. Rashness will spurn reason and dash on careless of consequences. Paul's presence could not have helped amid the howling mob, would have only added to it tempestuousness. Be brave; refuse to be rash. And what a tribute to the rare wisdom of the Apostle that he should have had friends even among those whose duty it was to preside over the games and spectacles in honor of Diana. By his wise, strong carriage of himself, the Apostle had compelled respect and friendship even among these Asiarchs. Never make needless enemies. Be strong and true, as Paul was always, but at the same time be courteous as he was also. Seek to win rather than offend. It is not Christian to be surgical. "Molasses catches more flies than vinegar." And any one's good will and friendship is too valuable a thing to be needlessly forfeited. "Friendship is a sheltering tree," says Coleridge.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D., in S. S. Times.

Senator Chandler's Three Maxims.

Senator Chandler is a philosopher. On the wall of his committee room in Washington hangs a little sheet of paper upon which is inscribed in his handwriting the following maxims:

Fulfill existing promises before making new promises.

Pay your own debts before borrowing money to lend to others to enable them to pay their debts.

Bear your own burdens first; after that, try to help carry those of other people.

Senator Chandler says that in these three sentences is bound up pretty nearly all the philosophy a man needs in life.

"TULIP" CHINA.

CURIOUS POTTERY MADE BY PENNSYLVANIA GERMANS.

Its Manufacture Was Begun in the Last Century and Continued About 100 Years.

Reference has been made several times in the Sun to the pottery of the Pennsylvania Germans, a peculiar ware, the manufacture of which began about the middle of the last century, and was discontinued about 100 years later. All the old local kilns, where this pottery was at one time produced, have disappeared, and the latest example of the earthenware itself that I have seen bears the date 1849. The descendents of the old potters, who still reside in eastern Pennsylvania, have abandoned the trade, except in a few instances, and these seem to have lost the decorative art

OLD PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH PIE DISH.
Is it Gen. Francis Marion, or a member of the Philadelphia City Troop?

of their ancestors and now produce nothing but common ware, ornamented with only crude lines in waves or zigzags.

The most marked characteristic of the ancient ware was the employment of the tulip as a decorative motive. Few pieces which have come to light are lacking in the conventionalized representation of this, the national flower for it had been long used in pottery in the fatherland before the first German settled in Pennsylvania. Until within a few years the Pennsylvania Dutch were accustomed to pay considerable attention to the cultivation of the tulip, but of late they seem to have neglected it. Not only did it figure on their pottery, but it was also painted on their certificates of birth, marriage and death. Many of the local preachers and school teachers in the German settlement were quite skillful with the pen and the brush, and were accustomed to engross, paint, and illuminate the certificates which were used to mark important family events.

A stroll through some of the neighboring burial grounds will result in the discovery of many old tombstones, on which have been carved the same tulip device, often suspended over sculptured angels with fat legs and chubby wings. It was the favorite flow-

SOLDIER OF THE MEXICAN WAR.
Pennsylvania German Pottery.

er for decorative treatment, and it was seldom that the artist introduced any other. Now and then a piece of pottery with some unusual ornamentation comes to light in the German districts. In the Sun of May 16 last a pie dish was figured which bore a design representing a continental officer mounted on a horse, said to have been suggested by an old print of Gen. Washington. Recently another interesting dish has come forth from its hiding place, on which is etched the figure of a Continental trooper in a uniform with cap embellished with a fox's tail instead of the cocked hat. It has been suggested that this was intended to represent Gen. Francis Marion of the Revolution, sometimes called the "Swamp Fox," as he has been thus represented in old readers and histories. The uniform is supposed, at least, to bear some resemblance to that worn by the ancient and honorable City Troop of Philadelphia.

Soldiers of other Americans wars have also been depicted on this old pottery. A plate in the unique collection of the Pennsylvania Museum, in Philadelphia, shows a uniform of the Mexican war, and quite faithfully has supposed to be intened to represent Gen. Taylor. The old potters and their apprentices having passed away, we can only conjecture what they intended to portray in the smooth but curious devices. The fate of the potters

OLD TULIP DISH.
Pennsylvania German. 1826.

themselves was very aptly foretold in one of their favorite verbal inscriptions which occurs on the tulip-embellished dish here reproduced, and which I have found on many pieces.

Ich bin gemacht von hoffner ein,
Wan ich zerbrich muss ich sein.

I am made of potter's clay.
When I break then I am gone.)

And on all these examples of a bygone day we find the tulip in some conventionalized form.—Edwin Atlee Barber, in New York Sun.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1897.

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OUR AUGUST PREMIUM.

As already stated to those of our subscribers whose time expires this month, we shall award a valuable oil painting to the one who sends us the largest list of subscribers this month in connection with their own renewal. We did not expect much of a competition in the matter, nor is there any, each one sending a few names only, seemingly without any thought of the premium. When we come to award the premium the first of September, it will, without doubt, go to one who does not expect it, and the balance will wonder why they did not add a trifling number to their list, since it was so easily taken. From present indications, it will be awarded for a very small club. However, we shall make the award just the same, and when we come to make a similar offer to those whose time expires in September, perhaps the next painting will not be so easily won.

JULY DEBT STATEMENT.

The debt statement of August 1, covering the operations of the Treasury for the month of July, shows a deficit of $6,790,560—or, rather, a decrease of the Treasury cash by that amount.

This decrease is the result of increased disbursements. July was the first month of this fiscal year. The new appropriations became available in that month. The disbursements for July were more than $27,000,000 in excess of those of June. This was not because of extravagant appropriations by the present administration, for the appropriations for the present fiscal year was made by the last Congress, while Cleveland was yet President. But July disbursements by the Treasury are always heavy, because in that month the semi-annual interest on the government bonds is paid, and the deficiency appropriations are disbursed.

The receipts from customs were very heavy during July, up to the 24th, when the Dingley law went into effect. Importers were rushing in imports, to take advantage of the low rates of the Wilson law, and the customs receipts were thus swelled to an abnormal figure. The customs revenue will be small for a time under the Dingley law, because the importers have enormous stocks on hand, and importations will be light until these are all worked off. We can not judge of the merits of the new law as a revenue producer until this is done, and it will take several months.

GORMAN'S "CRAWL."

Senator Gorman has control of the Democratic machine in Maryland. If there is anything which a machine politician dislikes, it is an issue which is liable to divide the voters of his party, and thus imperil the machine's chances of success. When such an issue arises, the machine policy is to "straddle" it. Senator Gorman is perplexed by the currency issue. He does not want to break with the Popocratic organization by abandoning the Chicago platform. He does not want a revolt among the sound money Democrats. So the financial plank adopted by the Maryland Democracy, under Gorman's dictation, is as follows:

"The Democracy of Maryland, in common with the Democracy of the Union, believe now, as they always have believed, in honest money, the gold and silver money of the constitution, and the coinage of both metals, without discrimination against either, into standard dollars of final payment and redemption.

There's a gem for you! It can be interpreted both ways. The free silverite will have his attention called to the statement concerning "the gold and silver money of the constitution" (a falsehood, by the way), and the demand for "the coinage of both metals." The sound money Democrats will be told that the platform declares for "honest money," and does not endorse the ratio of 16 to 1; hence it must be a sound money platform.

But unfortunately the issue is one which can not be straddled. The sound money Democrats are angry because Gorman did not come out squarely against the 16 to 1 fallacy. They contemptuously refer to the above plank as a "crawl" and "straddle." The free silverites are angry because it does not endorse the ratio of 16 to 1 in specific terms, and see in it a desire to get away from the Chicago platform. And Mr. Gorman will find that straddles don't go this year. The battle must be fought out to the bitter end, until free silver is routed and driven from the field of politics.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

The delivery of mail daily to residents of rural districts has met with great favor wherever the experiment has been tried. The appropriation for this work was small as it was deemed inexpedient to expend a large sum of money until a test had been made.

The fact is the average farmer wants his mail every day. He is a reader and a student of current events and he does not desire to wait four or five days or until it is convenient for him to go to the postoffice for his letters and papers.

The experiments which have been made are so successful, and meet with such hearty approval on the part of the farmers that it is certain efforts will be made to increase the appropriation for this purpose, and it should be done. Take the mail to the farmers as it is taken to residents of towns and cities.

The failure of the Democratic party to obtain power is because of its always taking up some unsound economic fad. It tried free trade, and ruin to the people followed the short least of power they gave it. Now it is trying free silver, and the people, remembering their former experience, will not trust it again.

The fall in silver and the rise in the price of farm products, is convincing proof of the fallacy of the Chicago platform of last year.

DOLLAR WHEAT EXPECTED.

The more sanguine of the wheat men in Chicago are freely predicting that wheat will reach the dollar mark. On August 12 the Chicago Board of Trade witnessed the greatest excitement and activity in wheat that has been seen since 1892. Two months ago, wheat sold in Chicago around 64 cents; on that day it sold at around 84. And of this rise eight or ten cents was the advance within the previous three days.

This advance is not due to a local or transitory cause. It depends on natural conditions. The basic fact is that foreign wheat crops are short, and the demand from the wheat-consuming countries of Western Europe must be supplied by us. We have a good crop, and are able to supply the deficit; but the shortage abroad has put up the price there, and that price is followed in the markets of the United States.

The Paris price of wheat is now equivalent to about $1.15 pre bushel, even with the duty of over 30 cents removed. The dealers of the continent are buying in England. The best London authorities say that Europe will want 12 per cent more wheat than is normally required; ad the United States alone is in a position to supply this enormous shortage.

This condition explains the general advance in wheat prices. The sudden spring upward in price last week was due to newly-developed facts regarding our own product. The Chicago Post states these as follows: The movement of spring wheat, which is already partly harvested, has been mostly toward the empty bins of millers who have been compelled to shut down for the want of wheat to grind. This movement was expected to go eastward for export, and the unforseen contingency caught the trade napping. Feeling sure that they will see the market advance still higher the farmers are also said to be stacking their wheat, to hold for the coming higher price.

The prospect has never been so good for dollar wheat in the United States for the last half-dozen years. There will be fluctuations in the price; but the more sanguine look to see wheat hover about the dollar mark. Our competitors in wheat exporting have no more than they will need themselves; Europe has to face a heavy crop shortage; the contest is therefore on for the surplus of the United States, and the demand will put the price up steadily.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Every two years, the terms of one-third of the membership of the United States Senate expire. The last change was March 4, of this year, and the Senate will remain as at present constituted, except as to appointed Senators, until March 4, 1899.

There are but two legislatures to be elected this fall that will have Senators to elect—Ohio and Iowa. Senator Hanna was appointed by Governor Bushnell, and can only serve, under the constitutional provision, until the legislature convenes and elects his successor. The term of Senator Gear, of Iowa, does not expire until March 4, 1901, but the legislature chosen next November will have the duty of choosing his successor.

There are twenty-nine Senators who will stand or fall by the political complexion of the state legislatures to be elected in 1898. Of these (including the Ohio seat) the following are almost certain to succeed themselves or to be succeeded by Senators of the same politics:

Republicans—Hawley, Hale, Lodge, Proctor, Aldrich, Quay, Burrows, Davis and Hanna. Total 9.

Democrats—Pasco, George, Cockrell, Bate, Mills and Daniel. Total 6.

Silver Party—Mantle, Stewart and Cannon. Total 3.

The remaining twelve are in the doubtful column. They are:

Republicans—Wilson of Washington, and Clark, of Wyoming. Total 2.

Democrats—White, of California; Gray, of Delaware; Turpie, of Indiana; Gorman, of Maryland; Smith, of New Jersey; Murphy, of New York; Roach, of North Dakota; Faulkner, of Virginia, and Mitchell, of Wisconsin. Total 9.

Populist—Allen, of Nebraska.

The vacancy from Oregon will, without doubt, be filled by a Republican. Counting this seat as a Republican one, the sixty Senators whose terms do not end until after 1899, will number 32 Republicans, 19 Democrats, 5 Populists and 3 silverites. Adding to these the new Senators in the above list whose politics are certain, and the status will be 41 Republicans, 25 Democrats, 5 Populists and 6 silverites.

There are twelve doubtful seats. The Republicans have to gain but four of them to obtain a clear majority in the Senate, and rid themselves of all affiliation with Jones, Stewart and Marble, the three silverites. The following states rejected free silver last fall by good majorities, and are reasonably certain to elect Republican legislatures and Senators: New York, New Jersey, Indiana, Maryland, North Dakota and West Virginia. The administration is reasonably certain of having a good majority in both houses of Congress, during its last two years.

STEWART ON PROSPERITY.

Senator Stewart, of Nevada, has abandoned the calamity howlers' camp. After years of service in championing the free coinage of silver, he bows to the irresistible logic of facts, and now announces that "the time has passed for the old issues. We must turn to face new issues and new conditions."

This is a complete volte-face for the silver Senator. He abandons as untenable the old arguments that "prices of wheat and silver go hand in hand," that free silver is the only salvation for the farmers, and all the fallacies that have for years been used to bolster the depreciated currency delusion.

He says the Western farmers, at the present price of wheat, with their abundant crops, will pay their debts, improve their farms, buy largely of things they need, and in fact prosper as they have not done for years. He is especially sanguine over the railway situation. They will not only be dividend earners, but dividend payers, he declares; and accordingly he is in New York actively engaged in "bull" speculations on Wall street.

Senator Jones, of Nevada, another leader in the silver crusade, takes the same view as Stewart of the situation. The pessimistic Bryan, the tearful Teller, the demagogic Jones, of Arkansas, and the rest of the erstwhile champions of the free silver lunacy, should also fall into line, and drop their impracticable policy. Free silver at 16 to 1 is as dead as the Caesars. Last year's campaign marked its high tide, and the wave is now retiring. It is following the same course as the greenback fallacy did, a score of years ago, and it will, within six months, cease to be a disturbing factor in American politics.

Republicans throughout Ohio are well pleased over the present political situation. Success at the polls is now assured.

MEXICO'S SILVER TROUBLE.

Mexico is silver standard country. Though her laws provide for bimetallism, they can not upset the law of business that the market price of the bullion in a coin gives that coin its value, and that nobody will exchange a gold peso for a silver peso when the gold in the former is worth more than twice the silver in the latter. Gold sells at a premium, measured in silver, and the coin in circulation in Mexico is silver only. It is the measure of values.

The recent fall in the value of silver has caused severe monetary disturbances in Mexico. The bonds had to be made payable, principal and interest, in gold in order to sell them abroad; and the same thing is true of the railway securities of the country. The fall in silver has had its effect upon the latter, as will be seen by the following extract from an editorial in the Mexican Herald of recent date:

The decline in silver came just at the wrong time for our railways, when they were showing an increase in net earnings, which on a steady silver value would have made holders of their securities very cheerful, and have redounded to the good name of Mexico as a country for careful investors. Nothing is worse than instability in the circulating medium; all calculations are overturned, and the ablest men of business find themselves confronted by a peril which, like an unsuspected ocean current, may bring shipwreck and disaster.

Hitherto Mexico has steadily and scrupulously paid the interest on her bonds held in London, in gold, but the strain is becoming severe. Exchange in London is now quoted at 132. It is but natural that repudiation is hinted at, for Mexico must take one of two roads, either that of repudiation, or the adoption of the gold standard. The Mexican Herald, one of the leading papers of the capital, rather boldly advocates repudiation, as will be seen by the following editorial extract:

While we have no authority for indicating a policy, we may suggest that one measure of relief for the government would be the reduction of the gold-interest rate on the foreign debt; for is it not manifestly unfair that silver-using Mexico should stand all the loss caused by the depreciation of her sole money metal?

Here is the sophistry of repudiation. Refuse to pay your honest debts because silver has fallen in price—that is the remedy which the Herald suggests. That is a logical outcome of the free silver system. The dollar that depreciates in value as the Mexican dollar depreciates is itself the chief of repudiators, and it is but natural that a government that coins it "without asking the aid or consent of any nation on earth," should itself resort to the policy of repudiation.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

One of the printed speeches on the tariff bill contains a compilation of the numerous protests from foreign governments against the new rates. Most of these protests insist that the new tariff will retard commerce, and some of them intimate that the demand for American goods in foreign markets will decrease.

This country is interested most deeply in its export trade. We are so favored that our own land produces all of the great raw materials for our industries, and we produce not only our own food supply, but a surplus which we sell to foreign nations.

The articles which we really need—other than luxuries—but which we do not produce, are nearly all on the free list. Hence the tariff does not affect their importation. But it does affect the imports of articles of the same kinds as we produce ourselves, as it should do, and as the tariffs do of every civilized country in the world except Great Britain.

That far it will affect commerce. We will buy less abroad of the things we can produce here. That money will be spent at home, to pay American labor and maintain American industries.

The intimation that the demand for American products in foreign markets will decrease is incorrect. The men who sell manufactured goods to us are not the ones who buy our products. The cotton manufacturer of Manchester neither knows nor cares where the Liverpool wheat importer buys his grain; the latter does not purchase wheat in a country simply because the former sells calicoes there. A tariff law influences our imports, but it has no effect upon our export trade.

AT LOWEST TIDE.

Immigration is at the lowest point reached since the United States government began to exercise supervision of it. The immigrants during the last fiscal year numbered only 230,832, a decrease of 112,435 from the total for the year before.

It is not likely this gratifying status will continue. The improved conditions in the United States will soon start the wave of immigration from Europe to this country. It will undoubtedly have begun before Congress meets next December.

The problem of restricting immigration is one which that body must face this winter. Several bills have been prepared by members of the House, who announce their determination to push them as strongly as possible. In this they will have a powerful lever in an aroused public opinion. We need to have the bars put up against this vast annual army of workingmen. Let us provide our own people with work before admitting others to compete with them.

The real origin of the coal mining trouble is to be found in the immigration of miners. We have more men at the mines than are needed. They can get out more coal every day than the market demands. That resulted in work only part of the time, and lower wages, and the strike followed when they got too low.

The Cincinnati Times-Star wants the six-pointed star abolished from our coins. It says:

It seems to be a positive fact that the five-pointed star which in 1777 Betsy Ross edissored out so readily for Washington's approval and which was then so promptly adopted by Congress, sheds no glimmer of light upon any one of our present coins. The British heraldic star, after nearly a century and a quarter, still sticks to every one of them! Betsy Ross, who then made our beautiful standard, told Washington that the six-pointed star was "too English, you know," for the American flag.

In Abyssinia, silver and gold are exchanged at a ratio of thirty-one ounces of silver for one ounce of gold. Even the half-savage Abyssinians have realized the fact that the worth of the bullion gives value to the coin. They are far in advance of Bryan and his cohorts on this point.

Horace Greeley's "Go West, young man," is now antiquated. Instead, it is "Go North, young man!" In other words, go to Alaska.

Meet prosperity half way. Don't sit down and expect it to come up and sit down in your lap.

And still the Turks hold Thessaly.

EVIDENCES OF GOOD TIMES.

Last Saturday's returns of bank clearings showed an increase for the week of 35 per cent. in the total for the entire country. This tells the story of increased activity in business in unmistakable terms. This activity is not alone agricultural. Every branch of trade, retail and wholesale is improving, and the industrial world is growing in activity day by day. We are fast approaching a general level, in all avenues of commerce and production, which marks "good times," even in the United States.

There is one point in the vast increase of bank clearings which must not be overlooked. It is, that a dollar's worth of business now means more than it means when applied to any previous year. There has been a steady cheapening in values of products in the United States since the panic of 1893, and consequently a dollar's worth of trade activity means, in 1897, a larger volume of business than was measured by a dollar in any previous year of that period. So, when the fact confronts us that the total bank clearings of the country for last week were 7.7 per cent. larger than in the same week of 1892, it means that not only did it take that much more money to transact the country's business last week, but that the amount of commodities which changed hands was very much greater, because of the cheaper price now.

The money market still continues easy, in spite of the largely increased use due to the business activity. The reason of this is that, during the four years of depression, the county has gotten down to the bed rock. Credits have been liquidated, and farmers, merchants and manufacturers have gotten to as near a cash basis as possible. The economy forced upon them by the stress of hard times has compelled them to this, and the result is the money in circulation has been ample, even for the trade revival.

As the business and industrial revival progresses, the vast sums which have so long laid idle in bank vaults will be required by the extension of credit, and the money market will become dearer. Already it looks as though the Bank of England may be compelled to raise its rate of discount to check the heavy export of gold to the United States to pay for the vast importations of breadstuffs. In the event of an advance in the bank rate, the rest of the world will quickly follow, and higher interest rates for business loans be the rule.

The tide is running free for a most prosperous era. Launch out boldly, remembering that it is the tide which leads on to fortune!

ABANDONING THE "CALAMITY" CRY.

The New York Journal, owned by W. H. Hearst, of the San Francisco Examiner, has been a persistent calamity howler. It took up the cause of Bryanism and free silver last year, and did its best for their success. It has howled over the alleged iniquity of the gold standard, and abused everybody who did not join in the calamity cry.

But the Journal has seen a great light. It realizes that the prosperity now here is but the forerunner of an era of good times. It knows that calamity wails will excite only laughter and derision. Hence it goes to shouting for prosperity—and in so doing evinces common sense and business sagacity.

Its yesterday's issue has a page devoted to personal statements by New York business and financial men, and interviews with buyers now in the city from all over th eUnion, all of whom unite in declaring that the turn of the tide has come, that business is improving in every line, that the farmers are prospering, and that good times are upon us.

The editorial page is also in harmony with the prosperity cry. The leading article has the caption, "Welcome to Prosperity." It says not a word about the "crime of 1873," nor is a plea for free silver expressed in it. Here are the closing paragraphs, which we heartily commend to the calamity wailers of the country, especially among newspaper editors:

The crash came in 1893, when for a time the great industries of the United States came to a dead standstill. We should probably have recovered within a few months or a year but for politics. The business of the country was kept on the ragged edge and stump speakers reveled in the flow of their own eloquence. Two separate and distinct tariffs have rolled their slow length through both Houses of Congress during this long-drawn agony of hard times. At least seventeen or eighteen thousand currency schemes have been exhaustively debated from the cracker boxes of every crossroads grocery. And meanwhile the national industries have marked time.

At last the seemingly endless nightmare is over. The people have resolved to get to work and confine politics to their leisure hours. Capital has decided that timidity can be carried to an excess, and that it is time for a little courage. Merchants are flocking into New York to buy goods, and lambs with rich virgin fleeces are flocking into Wall street to get shorn. The wheels are beginning to hum again and the sun is shining. The world has been reviling America long enough. Let us show it that the electric nerve and the mighty muscles that made this nation the envy of the earth eight years ago are still here.

SPAIN IS BANKRUPT.

It matters but little whether Secretary Sherman did or did not make the remark credited to him, concerning the coming bankruptcy of the Spanish government. It is the truth, whether he said it or not.

This is clearly shown by an official statement of the Spanish treasury. This shows that Spain's total debt is $1,765,000,000; that the annual interest charge is $70,000,000; that to this must be added accumulated interest amounting to $19,000,000 on obligations incurred in the Cuban war, and that the total Spanish revenue is $150,000,000.

This revenue can not be increased, for the burden of taxation is already as heavy as the people can bear. It is liable to fall short rather than to be increased. But even if it be maintained at $150,000,000, it is barely sufficient to pay annual interest charges and the expense of carrying on the war in Cuba, thus leaving nothing for the ordinary cost of running the Spanish government.

Probably the anger over the statement of Spain's actual extremity, attributed to Secretary Sherman, is because of its absolute truth. The Spanish government can not deny its own treasury figures, and any one can see that either the Cuban war must end or Spain become bankrupt.

The genuine brand of prosperity is on tap in Nebraska and Bryan stock is correspondingly low.

With silver falling, honest labor will not vote for paying its wages in a depreciated dollar.

Silver and wheat markets still continue to disprove "Coin" Harvey and Billy Bryan.

The people will judge of the Dingley law by markets, not by free trade maxims.

The clouds may have a silver lining, but that is no longer any argument for free coinage.

THE DINGLEY LAW.

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Please be sure, in writing to us, to say that you want a copy of "the Dingley tariff law," to write your name clearly, and to give your postoffice, county and state.

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The Virginia Democrats have not gotten over the ridiculous old rhetorical flourishes which made oratory, especially in the South, a roaring farce in the days before the war. In their state convention they adopted a plank reaffirming the Chicago platform, and extended to Mr. Bryan "our congratulations to our noble champion upon the able and brilliant manner in which he discharged the trust reposed in him." Probably, in the wordy rhodomontade of the platform they did not notice the absurdity of congratulating Bryan on being whipped out of his boots.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The decided decline in exchange rates and the anticipation that gold will be shipped in large amounts from London and the continent to New York during the remainder of the year are receiving much attention, both here and abroad. Such a movement of specie is the natural consequence of Europe's present and prospective purchases of grain in this country. Wall street, of course, regards the exchange and gold-shipping situation as a leading argument for the continuance of the bull stock market, but in London the outlook in this connection has already created a much firmer money market, since the probability of the transfer of gold from the Bank of England to this country comes at a moment when the continent, too, is making drafts on the English accumulations of specie. The lowest point at which demand sterling drafts sold in New York last week was 4.85¼, and the gold import point is fully 1 cent lower at present. With the likelihood that offerings of cotton bills will soon supplement the supply of drafts against grain, it is, however, to be expected that the decline of exchange will soon bring it to a level at which gold will come this way.

Immigration is at a low ebb, according to the statistics prepared by the treasury department; in fact, it is at the lowest point reached since the general government assumed jurisdiction of the subject. The arrivals from all countries during the last fiscal year numbered 230,832, which was a decrease of 112,435 as compared with the previous year. The figures for the fiscal year are over 49,000 below the lowest previous record, which was made in 1895. The year of heavlest immigration was 1882, when the arrivals numbered 788,992. Of the arrivals during the last fiscal year, over one-fifth came from Italy, though the total coming from that country showed a reduction as compared with the preceding year. During the decade and a half since the national government took control of the subject the immigration from Germany has shown a marked decline, the number arriving last year being less than a tenth of what it was in the year 1882.

The world's production of gold for the year 1896 is estimated by the Director of the Mint to have been $205,000,000, of which the United States contributed nearly one-quarter. For the year 1897 the probable gold product is estimated at $240,000,000. Increases are expected from all the principle producing countries, that from South Africa being regarded as the most important in point of quantity and value. The increase from Canada is ranked next, and then comes that expected from the United States. Other countries counted upon as supplying increases are Australia, Russia, Mexico and British India. The Director of the Mint expects that the world's product of gold will continue to increase for a number of years to come, that new mines will be opened in all parts of the world, and that with the improved methods for extracting the ores containing the gold the world's gold product by the close of the present century will amount to over $300,000,000 yearly.

The bimetallic commissioners who have been sounding the European ministries in reference to an arrangement looking to the establishment of a ratio between gold and silver have had little to report in the way of definite information. They have communicated to the British government the proposals with which they were charged, and have been informed that the administration will probably reply to those proposals in October next. The answer of the British government to the proposals of the commissioners will be, of course, the crucial point in the negotiations which they are conducting, because until that government has signified its intention to proceed upon the lines laid down in the proposals of the commissioners it will be of no possible use to open up negotiations with other government. The Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in a noncommittal reply to the suggestions of the United States envoys, says that it is due both to the importance of the subject and the manner in which it has been brought before the English ministry by the representatives of the United States and France, that the proposals made should be very carefully examined and considered, and that this process must be somewhat prolonged owing to the time necessarily occupied in communicating with the government of India. The answer of the Chancellor, it will be seen, postpones any definite arrangement in reference to the ratio until the fall.

An important decision has been rendered by the department of justice as to the scope of the provision in the new tariff law placing a discriminating duty of 10 per cent upon certain merchandise transported in other than American vessels. The decision was requested by the secretary of the treasury, who asked whether a discriminating duty of 10 per cent should be levied under section 22 on diamonds the product of a foreign country not contiguous to the United States and imported from Canada, and whether, in determining the liability of the diamonds to the discriminating duty it was material to ascertain the mode of conveyance used in transporting them into the United States. The attorney general has answered the first question in the affirmative and the second in the negative. In reference to the second question the attorney general said that in determining whether the goods under consideration were subject to the discriminating duty it was not material to ascertain the mode of transportation or method of importation but that it was sufficient to know that they "come into" the United States from a contiguous country and are within a class subject to duty, being the production or manufacture of a foreign country not contiguous to the United States and not being imported in the usual course of strictly retail trade.

Washington advices indicate that the state department has sent instructions to United States ambassadors and ministers abroad accredited to countries with which the United States has trade relations and which would be affected by the enactment of the Dingley tariff law ,directing them to communicate to the foreign offices at their respective posts the text of the act and to call attention to the sections of the new law which provide for retaliation, reciprocity and other similar relations. This action has been taken by the department in order that there may be a proper basis for the institution of negotiations looking to the consummation of some of the reciprocal agreements contemplated by the Dingley law. Owing to the complexity of the subjects to be treated and the dissimilar conditions existing in various countries with which the United States may have to do, the ground covered by the state department in these instructions will be difficult to traverse; but something has to be done in relation to thhe matter, inasmuch as Congress has in terms enjoined the beginning of negotiations as soon as may be after passage of the Dingley law. Up to the present no responses have been received by thhe state department, but indications furnished by our officials abroad point to the probability of overtures being made at almost any time.

In none of the manufactures entering into the American export trade does a greater increase appear than in the item of bicycles. For the eleven months ending May 31, 1897, the total value of bicycles and parts of wheels exported was $6,122,339, against only $1,328,214 for the corresponding period in 1896. The comparative statement is as follows:

Country.	1896.	1897.
United Kingdom	$321,212	$2,062,962
Germany	113,218	823,210
France	80,370	232,104
Other European countries	162,074	1,004,821
British North America	417,634	608,515
Mexico	21,000	1½,962
Argentina	2,600	58,323
China	4,479	16,939
British Australasia	66,120	650,416
Africa	5,157	118,944

Here, as in all other lines of industry where the objects aimed at are strength, lightness and beauty, the American artisan and designer beats the world. In Germany, where even at far higher prices, American wheels are given the preference over native makes, all other methods of barring them from competition having failed, it is proposed to raise the tariff from about 70 cents to $12 on each vehicle.

By October next Japan will have a gold currency. A circular issued by the Specie Bank at Yokohama announces that from that date gold will be paid for Bank of Japan notes. At the present time the mint at Osaka is busy minting new gold coins, the twenty-yen coin being struck first. It is expected to mint 10,000,000 yen worth of subsidiary coins, including fifty-sen coins within the year. The usual summer vacation of officials at the mint has been dispensed with in order to expedite the issuance of the new coins. It is learned that the Japanese government has decided to totally abolish the export duty from the commencement of the thirty-first financial year—that is, from April 1 next—and this in spite of the fact that the budget for the year shows a deficit of revenue. This decision has been taken with the view of encouraging the export trade.

The great coal strike continues. Though the strikers have managed to bring down some court injunctions upon themselves, they have really behaved very well all through the trouble. The speeches made by the leaders have neither excited to violence nor countenanced it. Indeed, from the beginning the leaders have been careful to impress upon the men that with violence they had no chance of success; and the men seem to have taken the warning to heart.

It would hardly be too much to say that there never was as large a body of men in similar circumstances who were under such good control. They march about and "demonstrate" and persuade wherever they can. On occasion, too, they even resort to intimidation. But the intimidation is of a noticeably mild character and does no great harm. The improvement thus shown over previous uprisings of labor in the same districts and from the same classes, when arson and assassination and general rioting made it necessary to call out the militia and resulted in pitched battles, is very great indeed; and the workingmen involved deserve great credit for it. In fact, in all our recent strikes there has been observable a gradually increasing self-control and peaceableness on the part of the strikers, which makes it possible to think that, after all, the working classes are capable of learning something from experience and from the constant dinning of certain fundamental moral truths into their ears.

The notable fact in the six weeks' struggle is that the strike has failed to extend to West Virginia. This failure has practically defeated the plans of its organizers, as they had counted on being able to cut off the supply of coal for railroads, steamboats, foundries and factories, and so add the influence of these industries toward forcing the mine operators to come to terms. As it is, most of the coal needed can be obtained, with more or less difficulty, from West Virginia, and the hope of a coal famine has been destroyed. In the Pittsburg district all the mines, with few exceptions, are now closed tight; their owners are unable to fill orders and are losing money. But in all probability the owners can afford better than the workmen to continue the struggle. The exceptions to the rule of closed mines in the Pittsburg district are those owned by the New York and Cleveland Gas company, and known as the De Armit mines. Upon these the efforts of the strikers have of late been almost exclusively directed, and every means of persuasion is being used to induce the non-striking miners to abandon work. To some extent these efforts have been successful, as the output of the DeArmit mines has been reduced from 10 to 50 per cent. If they can finally succeed in closing these pits, the strikers can transfer all their agitators and other militant forces to the West Virginia district, and make a new and stronger effort there. But that appears in any case to be a matter of considerable time yet, and the prospect of ultimate success is not bright.

It appears to be generally believed at Havana that Captain General Weyler has forwarded his resignation to Madrid. He was, in a sense, the right hand and personal representative of the late premier of Spain, and he was sent to Cuba to carry out the Canovas policy in regard to the insurrection. The assassination of Canovas deprived Spain of the most powerful statesman of the reactionary school, while it freed Cuba from its most formidable and influential foe. In a military sense, Weyler cannot survive Canovas very long. His days as commander in Cuba are necessarily numbered.

There is no reason to suppose that the Spanish cabinet has requested Weyler's resignation. Things in Spain are as yet too uncertain. The conservatives will retain power for the present, and no material change of policy is to be anticipated. But Gen. Weyler is shrewd enough to forecast coming developments. He knows that the methods he has pursued toward the Cuban insurgents have failed disastrously. Whatever the misleading and manufactured dispatches may have told us about the "pacification" of the island, we know that the rebellion is as strong and widespread to-day as it ever was. Weyler's iron rule and merciless treatment of suspects have not helped the cause of Spain. On the contrary, they have excited the indignation and resentment of American and European sentiment, and have created sympathy with the demand for absolute independence of Cuba.

If Weyler, with his large and trained army, has failed no other general can succeed. A new policy is obviously dictated by the situation, and of course Weyler is not the man to be intrusted with its enforcement. The day for conciliation and compromise may be past, but the Spanish cabinet will not abandon Cuba without further attempts at a settlement to the "mother country." If Gen. Weyler, realizing that the end of his regime is near, has forestalled the action of the ministry, he has acted wisely and diplomatically. We hope the report of his resignation is true, but in any case his retirement appears to be inevitable.

WHAT HIGH WHEAT MEANS

The following figures from authoritative estimates show how the country benefits from the higher prices at which the farmer will sell his wheat:

Surplus wheat of 1896 crop sold since January 1, 190,000,000 bu.	$133,000,000
Increase over last year	22,800,000
Amount of this year's crop already sold for consumption and export, 72,000,000 bushels	57,600,000
Increase over last year	14,400,000
Present wheat crop still coming into the market, 428,000,000 bu.	415,200,000
Increase over last year at present prices	128,400,000
Total increase for this year's crop	$165,600,000

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

Miss Mary B. Davis, of Louisville, went to San Francisco to attend the Christian Endeavor convention. Before her departure from home she was given a letter to Mr. George King. Miss Davis met Mr. King shortly after her arrival at the Golden Gate. It proved to be a case of love at first sight. Miss Davis and Mr. King sent this telegram to her parents:

"We will be married to-morrow. Would like you to write your approval." The old folks wired them - strong disapproval of the match, as they saw no occasion for such haste. The next message from the young couple read:

"Ceremony has been performed. Hope for forgiveness. Will visit you in December."

The ceremony was performed at the Palace hotel, San Francisco, in the presence of some of the members of the Kentucky delegation to the Christian Endeavor convention.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE C. KING.

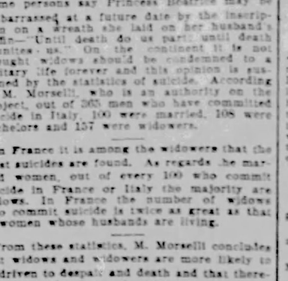
GOING TO KLONDYKE.

Chicago has at least one woman who intends to go single-handed and seek her fortune in the gold fields of Alaska. Her name is Pauline Kellogg. Although her life for many years past has been in very different channels Miss Kellogg is by no means a stranger to mining customs. She is a daughter of Judge Wm. Kellogg, one of Colorado's pioneer miners, who gained a fortune and left it to his daughter, only to have it lost later in unfortunate investments.

MISS PAULINE KELLOGG.
(Chicago Woman who Wants to Make Her Fortune in Alaskan Gold Fields.)

Miss Kellogg is now making plans to gain another competency, if not a fortune, and hopes to start by one of the earliest boats for Alaska.—Times-Herald.

SAW HIMSELF DIE.



DR. TYLOR HULL.

Of Dimondale, who had a mirror placed at the foot of his bed and watched the progress of his fatal disease. He was 56 years old, both a lawyer and physician, and was worth about $75,000. His trouble began with a fall, resulting in blood poisoning. In 1890 he served in the legislature.

MEASURES HER STRENGTH

A late invention from Paris is a meter for estimating how much strength a bicycler may safely expend on a day's ride. One variety of meter is fastened to the wrist of the cyclist, to take the pulse beats. A second meter,

shown in the illustration here given, is not only for bicyclers but to be used in all tests of the lungs and vitality. As women are more frail than men, and more liable to overdo the thing, the new tests will be of especial value to them.

YES OR NO.

In different places opinions vary as to whether or not widows should marry again. Some persons say Princess Beatrice may be embarrassed at a future date by the inscription on a ring she laid on her husband's coffin—Until death do us part; until death reunites us. On the continent it is not thought widows should be condemned to a solitary life forever and this opinion is sustained by the statistics of suicide. According to M. Morselli, who is an authority on the subject, out of 365 men who have committed suicide in Italy, 100 were married, 108 were bachelors and 157 were widowers.

In France it is among the widowers that the most suicides are found. As regards the married women, out of every 100 who commit suicide in France or Italy the majority are widows. In France the number of widows who commit suicide is twice as great as that of women whose husbands are living.

From these statistics, M. Morselli concludes that widows and widowers are more likely to be driven to despair and death and that therefore it is the duty of society to encourage them to remarry. On the other hand, M. G. Labadie-Lagrave does not think much of these statistics. "The conclusions arrived at," he says, "seem to me very much exaggerated. If so many widows are unable to support the burden of life, it is not chagrin at the loss of their husbands which drives them to commit suicide, but rather anxiety as to how they shall support themselves and their children. And it is very probable that the reason why they remain widows is not because they desire to remain true to their husbands, but because they cannot find men who are willing to burden themselves with the support of them and their children."

KNEW JEFFERSON.

Zadok Washburn, aged 95, claims to be the oldest man in Ingham county, Michigan. He is very hardy, weighs 155, and one day in July mowed half an acre of hay and hoed an acre of potatoes.

Zadok has features of Washingtonian type, with high Roman nose and broad forehead. He has led the life of a mountaineer, and for 20 years was connected with circuses. In 1859 he went to Harper's Ferry and helped to load

ZADOK WASHBURN.

gun barrels. He saw Lafayette, was acquainted with Thomas Jefferson, and talked with Andrew Jackson.

When he quit the circus he had accumulated quite a sum of money and bought 14 saloons in Michigan and 15 acres in Lansing. Having trouble with his second wife, who obtained a divorce, his wealth vanished. He paid Governor Austin Blair $1,000 for services on his wife's account.

Except voting for Lincoln, Zadok has been a life-long Democrat. He never smoked or drank whisky.

MORE STRAWS.

Rochester Post-Express:—The export demand for wheat gets heavier every day. Austria is the latest country to send in orders. The amount of wheat that Europe will take from America is now estimated at 225,000,000 bushels. As a result of this tremendous export demand, dollar wheat is not at all impossible.

The Pan Handle railroad is reported to be having the novel experience of being unable to get cars enough to haul the freight awaiting shipment over that line. Other railroads all over the country are in the same box. This means business, and business is the country's most welcome guest just now.

The following paragraph from the Charlotte, N. C., Observer is worth reading over twice, especially by the calamity howler: "The condition of this section of the country, as reported by commercial travelers, experts in the knowledge, is such as should effectually smother the screech of the calamity howler. Crop prospects have never been better; the people are out of debt to a great extent; farm products are bringing, and promise to bring, good prices; the merchant is hopeful, the farmer favored of heaven, the artisan contented, and the whole Southland is blessed."

The Union and the Jones and Abbott foundries at Zanesville, which shut down on July 1 with an enormous stock on hand, have both been compelled to resume to keep up with their orders. They are now running on full time with full orders.

The most remarkable thing about the reports of better times is the fact that they come in from every part of the country. It is not a sectional prosperity, but a national prosperity. There is no standing room left for the calamity howler. He must quit howling, go to the Klondyke, or jump into the sea.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Miss Ruth Cutler, of New York, recently cleared a high jump bar of five feet four inches.

A new shoe lace, which will not wear out quickly is woven very heavy throughout nearly its entire

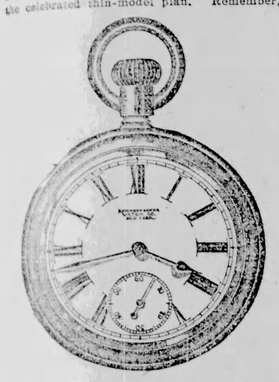
Publishers' Column.

A WATCH FOR EVERYBODY!

A Premium Watch That Breaks the Record—Read Carefully This Offer.

Think of a stem-wind and stem-set watch, guaranteed a perfect timekeeper, that will not cost a cent!

We have secured for our friends one of the most serviceable watches ever made, which is a stem-winder and stem-setter, having all the modern appliances known to watchmakers' art. The case is solid nickel. It is made on the celebrated thin-model plan. Remember,



this is not a small clock, commonly called a watch by unscrupulous advertisers, but a highly jeweled nickel movement, made by one of the most celebrated watch manufacturers in America. It is guaranteed by the manufacturer, and if not found exactly as represented, this guarantee is assumed by us. A watch like this a generation ago would have cost $20 if it could have been produced, but the fact is it contains appliances unknown at that time. Each watch has been thoroughly adjusted, and will be sent in perfect running order.

How to Get It.

We will send this watch by mail to any person who will send us a club of only three $1 yearly subscribers to the Weekly Blade; or we will mail it to you postage prepaid for only $2.

It will be seen, therefore, by the above that no one need be without a watch equal for keeping time to any in the neighborhood a single day longer. It will not take long to get up a club of only three subscribers for the best family newspaper in the United States. Try it and see how easy it is. Address,

THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

SHERIDAN'S RIDE.

Our latest picture is Sheridan at the Battle of Five Forks, size 10x15 inches, and executed in colors. Price 15 cents. This picture cannot be purchased at an art store for less than 75 cents.

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These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge).
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo.
Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
Fall of Petersburg, Va.
Battle of Winchester, Va.
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It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1.25
½ dozen teaspoons	.85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2.35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1.35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2.00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1.15
½ dozen table knives	2.25
1 dozen table knives	4.25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

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CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Reader of THE BLADE.

NO. 7139—LADIES' MOTHER HUBBARD WRAPPER.

A neat and useful gown is here shown composed of polka-dot percale, trimmed with bands of insertion. The upper portion consists of a short yoke that is simply adjusted by shoulder seams, and has a straight lower edge. The full portion has side seams, and is gathered at the upper edge and joined to the yoke, a single band of insertion concealing the seam. The sleeves are one-seamed and sufficiently loose to permit of perfect freedom of the arms, a feature necessary in gowns of this description. Gathers adjust the fullness of the sleeves at the upper and lower edges,

7139—Ladies Mother Hubbard Wrapper.

and a single band of insertion completes the wrists. The neck finishes with a neat rolling collar.

Percale, dimity, gingham, lawn, batiste and all washable fabrics are adapted to the mode, or the garment can be made of either French or cutting flannel, in which instance it can be used as a nightdress when traveling. Ladies contemplating a sea voyage will find gowns of this description exceedingly comfortable and practicable.

To make this wrapper for a lady in the medium size will require eight yards of 36-inch material. The pattern, No. 7139, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42-inch bust measure.

DO NOT FAIL to give the NUMBER of pattern, and MEASUREMENTS. It will save trouble and delay.

NO. 7125—LADIES' ETON JACKET.

Black serge is the material selected for this natty Eton jacket that is neatly finished with machine stitching, narrow silk cording and small buttons affording appropriate decoration. It is worn over a taffeta silk waist of brilliant hue which affords the inevitable touch of brightness so essential to a cycling costume. The fronts are truly adjusted to the figure by single bust darts that are held to position by means of cords and buttons. Above the closing the fronts are reversed in lapels that meet the rolling collar in even

7125—Ladies' Eton Jacket.

notches. The jacket of becoming length reaches to the top of the deep girdle, except at the front, where it extends in pretty shaped tabs. The seamless back is slashed at the center and decorated with cord and buttons. The sleeves are two-seamed, having the moderate fullness of the upper portion arranged in gathers. They are slashed at the wrists, revealing the sleeve beneath.

The style of Eton is particularly jaunty, being a decided innovation from the several plain styles. Cloth, serge, cheviot and canvas are among the suitable materials, the colors most selected being green, brown and blue in all its various shades.

To make this jacket for a lady in the medium size will require 2¼ yards of 44-inch material. The pattern, No. 7125, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 7143—LADIES' UMBRELLA SKIRT.

This petticoat, as shown, is made of figured taffet silk, decorated with ruffles of the same material. The front and sides are gored, and the back is closely gathered. The adjustment is close across the front and over the hips, where two small darts are provided. Below the hips the skirt gradually expands. The bottom finishes with a deep Spanish flounce, which is gathered at the top to form a heading, and is trimmed at the lower edge with three narrow overlapping ruffles which

7143—Ladies' Umbrella Skirt.

further emphasize the flare and produce a decided frou-frou effect. The top of the petticoat is finished by a bias underfacing, forming a casing through which a tape is run to regulate the fullness at the back.

Dainty skirts can be made of lawn, cambric, sateen, muslin, etc., trimmed with ruffles of the material, lace, insertion or embroidery.

To make this skirt for a lady in the medium size will require 6½ yards of 36-inch material. The pattern, No. 7143, is cut in sizes for at 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

THE AUGUST HEAVENS.

Some of the More Marked Objects in the Evening Sky.

Where can we find a more beautiful picture than that which the starry heavens present to us on every clear evening? At this season of the year when everything invites us out of doors how can we help wishing to renew our acquaintance with the stars?

Since the last report Leo, with its famous sickle, and beautiful Regulus, has disappeared before the advancing twilight.

Spica in Virgo is still visible in the southwest in the early evening. Bootes, with the brilliant Arcturus, is in the west midway between the meridian and the western horizon. Arcturus is the first star to become visible in the evening twilight, though Vega in Lyra toward the northeast is not far behind. It is wonderfully interesting on any clear evening to watch the stars as they blossom, one by one, in "the garden of the sky." It is also a severe test of one's knowledge of the same to be able to name and assign to its proper constellation a star when its usual companions are not yet visible.

Hercules is nearly overhead, and just north of Hercules is the head of Draco, marked by a quadrilateral of four stars. An irregular line of stars winding between the Bears forms the body of the monster, and includes in its folds Thuban, celebrated as having been the pole star where the great pyramid of Egypt was built. South of Hercules is Ophiuchus, a larger constellation occupying most of the space between Hercules and Scorpio, whose head is marked by a second magnitude star near the head of Hercules, and his shoulders by two pairs of stars. The head of Serpens, marked by a triangle of stars, lies just south of the northern crown, while his body is formed by a line of stars crossing Ophiuchus.

The Milky Way, in the absence of the moon, is now quite conspicuous. Rising out of Perseus, in the northwest, it includes Cassiopeia, Cygnus, the Eagle, Sagittarius and Scorpio, as it branches toward the south. East of Cygnus the great Square of Pegasus is easily recognized. Extending from the northeast corner a line of three second magnitude stars forms the outline of Andromeda, the constellation that includes the celebrated Nebula of Andromeda, the only nebula actually visible to the naked eye, and the beautiful triple star Gamma Andromeda. Later in the evening Fomalhaut, a first magnitude star belonging to the Southern Fish, makes its appearance in the southeast, so we still have six first magnitude stars, the same as last month, even though Regulus has disappeared.

Mars and Jupiter were in conjunction on July 25, and it was the good fortune of the writer to see them both in the field of the telescope at the same time. Jupiter with his four moons in line and the ruddy Mars formed a very beautiful picture—one that I had never seen before. Jupiter can still be easily seen in the strong twilight, but one must look closely if he would see Mars. Saturn is still the brightest star in the southern heavens, just west of the meridian and Uranus near by, can easily be found by aid of the telescope. About the middle of the month Jupiter, Mars and Mercury will be in the same vicinity in the western sky, and may be found if the atmospheric conditions are favorable by those who carefully look for them. Venus is still the bright planet of the morning, and though not so brilliant as she has been is well worth making some effort to see. A sight of some of the winter constellations will also reward the early riser.

SOLILOQUY OF A BACHELOR.

To wed or not to wed? that is the question
Whether 'tis nobler in man to suffer
The slings and sorrows of that blind young archer,
Or fly to arms against a host of troubles
The heartache and a thousand hopes and fears
The single suffer—'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To woo, to wed—
To wed—perchance repent—ay, there's the rub.
For in that wedded state what woes may come
When we have launched upon that untried sea
Must give us pause. There's the respect
That makes celibacy of so long life,
For who would bear the quips and jeers of his friends,
The husband's pity or the coquette's scorn,
The vacant hearth, the solitary cell,
The unshared sorrow or the void within,
When he himself might his redemption gain
With a fair damsel? Who would beauty gain
To toil and plod over a barren heath,
But that the dread of something yet beyond—
The undiscovered country—from whose bourne
No bachelor returns—puzzles the will
And makes us rather bear the ills we have
Than fly to others that we know not of!
Thus forethought doth make cowards of us all,
And thus the native hue of resolution
Is sickled o'er with the pale cast of thought,
And numberless flirtations, long pursued,
With this regard, their currents turn away
And lose the name of marriage.
—New York World.

SHE NEEDS MONEY.

Miss Hulda Duestrow, of St. Louis, sister of the notorious murderer recently executed, is heiress to the millions of the Duestrow family, yet she cannot have a dollar she may call her own. She is practically a pauper, though

MISS HULDA DUESTROW.

a large inherited fortune is hers and all because of a loosely worded clause of her father's will. Superstitious people say the Duestrow millions are cursed and that heaven's wrath is about to be visited upon them.

BEET SUGAR SUCCESS.

First Batch Turned Out at Los Alamitos, Cal.

A dispatch to the Los Angeles Times from Los Alamitos, Cal., says:

The factory here has just turned out its first batch of beautiful, white, granulated sugar, proving it to be a grand success in every particular. Just about nine months ago work was commenced on the foundations of a plant which is now complete in every detail, and is working up hundreds of tons of beets per day and turning out from its own refinery a finished product of the best quality of white granulated sugar.

One notable feature of the construction of this factory is that all the material and all the machinery are of American manufacture, even to the best knives, the machinery being designed and built by the firm of E. H. Dyer & Co., of Cleveland, O. Edward F. Dyer, of that firm, is superintendent of the works, and it is owing to his skill, unstinting industry and executive ability that the enterprise has been brought to a successful issue and on time.

RECOMPENSE.

It's a long, long furrow, but I gwine ter made de heat,
For de dinner ho'n is fixin' fer ter blow;
En de water in de bucket it a-tastin' mighty sweet!
Dar's a melon dat's a-coolin' down below!

De hot sun's a-bakin' en a-blisterin' yo' feet;
But de shadder say: It gittin' time ter go!
En I tell you why de water is a-tastin' mighty sweet—
Dar's a melon dat's a-coolin' down below!
—Atlanta Constitution.

1897 COLUMBIAS

Strong, Safe, Speedy,

STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

$75

TO ALL ALIKE.

1896 Columbias - -	$60
1897 Hartfords - -	50
Hartford Pat'n 2, Woman's	45
Hartford Pattern 1, Men's	40
Hartford Patterns 5 and 6	30

POPE MFG. CO., Hartford, Conn.

If Columbias are not properly represented in your vicinity let us know.

THE ZUYDER ZEE.

WORK OF RECLAIMING HAS BEEN BEGUN.

Great Inland Sea Will Be Pumped Out—How the Dykes Will Be Made—A Vast Undertaking.

The Dutch consul at New York says that one of the results of the recent elections in Holland will be the beginning of the great work of draining the Zuyder Zee. This is the most elaborate scheme of contest ever proposed against the ocean and its successful completion ten or twleve years hence will annext to Holland a strip of territory two-thirds as large as the state of Rhode Island. It will be one of the great engineering feats of the age.

Five years ago a commission was appointed to prepare plans and make an estimate of the probable cost of the project. The plan adopted is to drain only the southern portion of the Zee by means of dykes extending from Enkhuizen by the way of isle of Urk to the mouth of the Yssel, a distance of 28 miles. This section can be reclaimed at about $25,000,000, as the water is very shallow, being on the average little more than ten feet deep. As soon as the new government, which has not yet had time to organize, gets itself established, a beginning will be made on the dyke and canal at Enkhuizen.

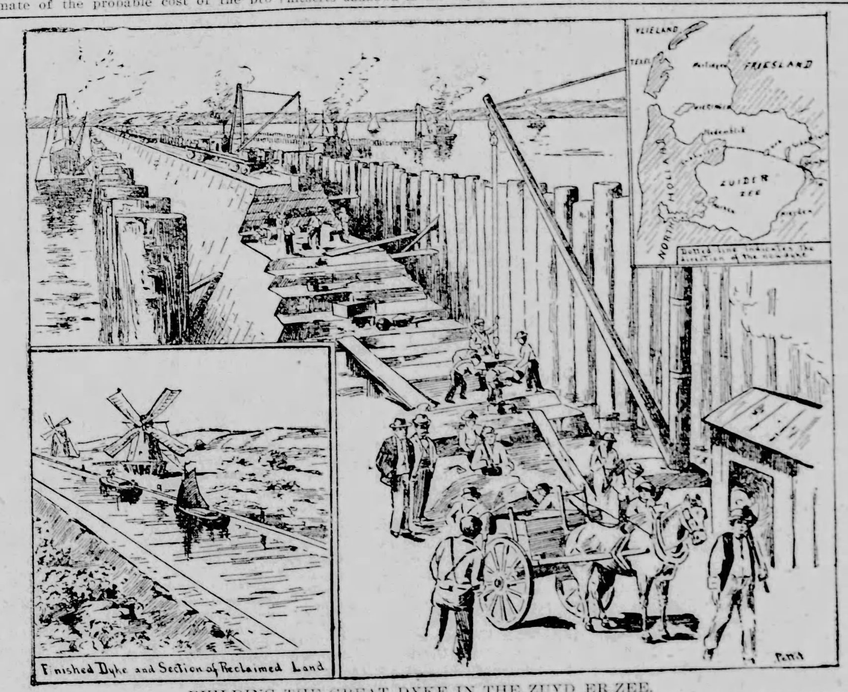
The great dyke will begin at Enkhuizen, a short distance north of Amsterdam on the peninsula known as North Holland, which was made an island a few years ago by the completion of the North sea canal, another great engineering work to the credit of the Dutch. Enkhuizen was once one of the great commercial cities of Holland, with a population of 40,000, but the sea which fights the Hollanders as fiercely as they contend against it, locked its harbors and ruined it.

The first step in the work will be to drive a double line of piles along the route of the outer dyke. The lines of piles will be 50 feet apart, and when they have been sunk the water will be dammed back on either side by a wall of sand banks, and steam pumps placed at intervals of a thousand feet, will keep the space between pumped out.

When the dyke has been completed, windmills will be used to keep the water pumped out and to dispose of the yearly inundations. Those windmills will have towers nearly 200 feet high, and a sweep of 75 feet. They will be the largest of their kind in the world. On the bed of the land canal thus cleared away a wall of solid masonry will be built 35 feet wide at the bottom and tapering to from eight to ten feet wide at the top, according to the depth of the water in different parts of the route. This masonry wall will be backed up on either side by an earthwork, and will have permanent pumping stations erected along its line. When this first dyke has been completed another one will be erected parallel to it on the land side and will be of the same construction—masonry in the middle defended by earthworks.

Between the two dykes an open path will be left for a canal, for the canal everywhere accompanies the dyke in Holland. This canal will provide a channel for the flowing of the tides, an outlet for the rivers, conducting them to the sea, a pathway for commerce and a ready means of irrigation. Along the dyke embankment will extend a railway line connecting the towns, which will quickly spring up in the reclaimed district.

When the great southern arm of the Zuyder Zee is shut off the next step in the work will be the draining of the great inland lake that will remain. For this purpose a maze of interesting dykes and canals will be built, each one fitted with its pumping stations and all conducting the water to the sea by way of the main canal. There will then be exposed a broad basin of some 487,500 acres in extent, but the work will be only half done, for, while a part of this surface will consist of the rich alluvium deposited by the Yssel and smaller streams, the greater part of it will be a sandy waste unfit for cultivation. This is a condition with which the Holland farmer is well prepared to cope, however. The process of enriching the land is not unlike that of skin grafting. Every district in Holland will be called upon to contribute a section of its rich surface and a portion of its famous manures.



BUILDING THE GREAT DYKE IN THE ZUYD ER ZEE.

Every Dutch ship returning from the colonies will carry as ballast a load of rich earth and this patchwork process will be continued until the reclaimed land which at the start will not be able to grow even weeds, will take rank along with the rest of Holland as one of the most fertile spots in the world.

The present undertaking is five times as great in its scope as the reclaiming of the lake of Haarlem, which was completed 25 years ago. It will make a great change in the map of Holland and will wipe out the greater portion of the Zuyder Zee. Its effect on the commercial and industrial conditions of the country should be even more important and the investment, great as it will be, should return a four-fold increase besides its substantial addition to the national wealth and domain.

Already in the past 800 years Holland has increased her territory from 600 to 13,000 square miles by this patient warfare with the ocean. In the eighth century the land now covered by the waters of the "Southern sea" was dry and partly under cultivation. It contained a large number of fresh-water lakes, the largest of which was the lake of Fleva, which was separated from the North Sea only by a narrow strip of land. At the beginning of the thirteenth century the sea broke through this natural dyke and, overflowing the lake of Fleva, flooded the whole low-lying district included within the lands of the present drainage scheme. In 1205 Weiringen was a peninsula, in 1250 it was an island. There are in Holland many stories of cities destroyed and people drowned by this inundation. It is possible that the driving back of the waters in this mysterious and interesting Zuyder Zee will reveal the remains of some of these mediaeval cities. At any rate it will be an industrial scheme of the first magnitude, ranking along with the building of the Suez Canal and the great engineering feats in which Americans pride themselves.

ROYAL MEN AND WOMEN.

As soon as possible—that is, of course, directly the London season comes to a close, the Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria of Wales will return with Prince and Princess Charles to Denmark. They will remain in Denmark at least two months, as it is always a great comfort to the queen to have her eldest daughter with her; and the presence of her mother and sister will also help to make the time pass pleasantly for Princess Charles in her Danish home for the brief period she will remain there. Early in October the Princess of Wales will go to Scotland, and in November her youngest daughter will return to England with Prince Charles in order to spend the winter months at Appleton house.

The czar and czarina are proving themselves wonderfully tactful as rulers. The choice of the name Tatiana for their little baby has given the people the most unbounded delight, and consoled them not a little in their disappointment at the sex of the little imperial stranger. Tatiana is a name that belongs essentially to the people; it is one hitherto unknown in the imperial family, and by making so marked a departure from tradition and thus making their little daughter, so to say, a princess of the people, the czar will have won the hearts of hundreds of thousands of his subjects. But the little grand duchess has done even more still by her coming to bring Russia peace, for she is to have a French nurse from Baroune, and the French are consequently jubilant.

The queen dowager of Portugal, Dona Adelaide, widow of the late King Dom Miguel I., took the veil on June 8 at the French Benedictine convent at Solesmes, her majesty having served her novitiate there for a year. Dona Adelaide, who was born in 1831, was a princess of the then reigning house of Lowenstein-Wertheim-Rochfort, was married at the age of 21 to Dom Miguel I., who reigned for nine years, and was the last in direct line of the ancient royal house of Braganza, being succeeded after the revolution by the Saxe-Coburg branch now on the throne. Dom Miguel and Queen Adelaide had seven children. Their son, the present duke of Braganza, who is a general of dragoons in the Austrian army, is an ardent sportsman, and well known in English society. His six sisters all contracted brilliant alliances, one being the bereaved Archduchess Marie Therese.

The Empress Frederick of Germany has ordered that the six drawings from her pencil which are on exhibition at the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colors, Piccadilly, shall be the means of enriching the hospital founded at Athens by the Crown Princess of Greece.

The German emperor almost invariably travels in his own white enameled saloon carriage and whenever he or the empress or any of the princes or princesses of the imperial family or any of the German sovereigns travel by train, the same is always under the charge of a high railway functionary.

The king of Siam is expected at Berlin at the end of August, when he will be the guest of the kaiser, and will later go to Homburg, where he will be present at the grand review to be held by the German emperor in that neighborhood in September.

A STRANGE BOAT.

Here is a picture of the most novel boat ever constructed. It is called the "umbrella boat" from the fact that the sails fold up just as an umbrella does. At first sight this would seem a drawback, but in reality it is not so; for the mechanism is the simplest possible, as when tacking the sail is merely shifted from one side to the other. The boat is a light one and sails very fast, and seems admirably adapted for sailing on rivers or any quiet bay. A glance at the picture will explain the working of the sails better than any amount of description.

THE UMBRELLA BOAT.

Hood's Pills

Stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure biliousness, headache, dizziness, constipation, etc. Do not gripe. Easy to take, easy to operate. 25c. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

A BOOK BY THE BROOK.

Give me a nook and a book,
And let the proud world spin round;
Let it scramble by hook or by crook
For wealth or a name with a sound.
You are welcome to amble your ways,
Aspirers to place or to glory;
May big bells jangle your praise,
And golden pens blazon your story!
For me, let me dwell in my nook,
Here by the curve of this brook,
That croons to the tune of my book,
Whose melody wafts me forever
On the waves of an unseen river.
—James Freeman Clarke.

THE COLLEEN FROCK.

Pinafore Dress of Rose Cashmere, Trimmed With Braid.

Charming little dresses for children are made of Liberty or China silk or of cashmere, vailing or Henrietta in the delicate

hues most becoming to the young, and ribbon, insertion, lace or embroidered edging are the garnitures usually chosen. The Pinafore dress illustrated here, which is taken from the Delineator, is closed at the back and the full yoke is gathered while the loose flowing front and back may be smocked or shirred. Stylish frill caps extend over the top of the bishop sleeves, which are completed with roll-over flaring cuffs. The turn-down collar is in two sections that flare at the front and back.

Barege, India or China silk, challis, chambray and many of the sheer washable materials will be chosen for the dress which may be worn at parties and various dressy functions if suitable materials and trimmings are selected. A very pretty dress was copied from it of primrose yellow Liberty silk trimmed with black velvet ribbon.

PRIOR REILLE

A new star has arisen in the village of Woerishoefen, Germany, where Father Kneipp, years back, gave to the world a supposed panacea for all ills in his water cure. The noted priest died recently and his successor is Prior Reille, said to be a scientist of great ability and a physician

Prior Reille, Kneipps successor.

whose researches entitle him to rank with Koch, Virchow, and Pasteur. At any rate he follows in the footsteps of his predecessor and will remain in the village which Kneipp made so famous. He is still a young man, about 35 years old, and a German by birth. He was ordained a Catholic priest ten years ago.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Every married woman gets an idea that she has to have lots of patience with her husband.

The average man thinks most about owing a duty to his family just before the church collection.

The women whose husbands talk most about their wives being domestic in their tastes generally have to be.

Every wife is pretty sure there was another woman, but very few are bright enough to make their husbands think there was another man.—New York Press.

Paperhanging by Machinery.

Paper can now be hung by machinery. The device has a rod on which a roll of paper is placed, and a paste reservoir with a feeder placed, so as to engage the wrong side of the paper. The end of the paper is fastened to the bottom of the wall, being held in place by the operator. A roller follows the paper as it unwinds and presses it against the wall. When the top of the wall is reached, the operator pulls a string which cuts the paper off from the roll.—Lloyd's London Weekly.

5000 RAZORS GIVEN AWAY!

Special offer. 5000 handsome imported Shellbound pearl razors absolutely FREE, only one to each person. Shell-field Razors are known the world over as the best razors made, selling as high as $10.00 each. To introduce into this country our shaving soap which beautifies the skin, removes pimples, blotches and all facial eruptions, leaving skin soft & smooth as a baby's, delightful perfumed after a shave. We give above razors ABSOLUTELY FREE. 10 cts silver or stamps, for sample cake of soap and we will send one at once securely boxed prepaid. Each razor is highly finished with handle artistically worked in gold. Why we do this. Sometimes when we make an offer, we mean it. Introducing our soap is one of them. Address F. WILLIAMS & CO., Mfg. Agts., 123 Church St., N.Y. Copy this and receive the present and show our goods.

TOLEDO BLADE FOUNTAIN PEN

To every person mailing us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year we will mail one of these Fountain Pens free, if asked for at the time order is sent.

The barrel is of specially made hard rubber, accurately turned and fitted. The pen is of extra good weight and combines flexibility with stability. The ink flow is automatic, and it will never drip nor skip. We guarantee it in every respect, and further, that it is the equal in quality and appearance of any $1.75 pen sold. By arranging for purchase of many hundred dozens we are enabled to give same away to our readers on above terms.

Or, we will mail these pens postpaid to any address on receipt of 25 cents each. Every subscriber of The Blade should order one of these pens, and do so soon as convenient, as we may not continue the offer beyond a few weeks. Address

THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

WHEAT VS. SILVER.

What makes poor Bryan wipe his eye,
And beat his breast and frequent sigh,
And tell his foes he'd like to die?
'Tis wheat,
'Tis silver.

What makes his party friends declare,
Their cause is smashed beyond repair;
What makes them so profusely swear?
'Tis wheat,
'Tis silver.

What makes "the tolling masses" all
Poor William J. a humbug call,
Who tried to bunco them, last fall?
'Tis wheat,
'Tis silver.

Has he not preached from day to day,
That wheat and silver, come what may,
Like Siamese twins together stay?
He has,
He has,
He has.

Whose price goes up while farmers say,
"Lo, things at last have come our way,
Three cheers for us—hooray, hooray"?
Wheat's price—
Not silver's.

Whose price, in spite of Bryan's frown,
Goes down and down and down and down,
And down and down and down and down?
Silver's price—
Not wheat's.
—Rochester Post-Dispatch.

A $20,000,000 FRAUD.

The Famous Bridal Package in the Government Treasury.

"I hate to shatter a pet delusion by giving the facts in the case," said a former clerk in the treasury department at Washington, "but fraud ought to be exposed regardless of consequences, and the greatest fraud I know of is the famous 'bridal package' of the treasury vaults.

"I say famous, but it isn't famous in a general sense. It is famous only among bridal couples that go to Washington on their wedding tour—and it seems to me that about nine-tenths of the bridal couples of the country go to Washington—know all about the package, and the bride cannot rest until she goes through the regular routine connected with it. No visit to Washington by a stranger is complete without an inspection of the treasury vaults; but if his or her visit is a non-bridal one the fraud of the package isn't played on them.

"I don't know who it was in the department that first imposed it on a bridal pair but it went, and it grows in popularity every year. When the couple enter the vault, the man in charge, after a few preliminary and perfunctory remarks, reaches up on a shelf, takes down a package of notes and tells the bride to take it in her hand, if she hasn't asked for it the very first thing. He then tells her that the package contains $20,000,000 in treasury notes, all in denomination of $10,000 each. The bride is delighted, of course, and when she goes back home she talks for weeks about having held $20,000,000 in her hand at one time. The bridegroom can't resist enjoying the same pleasure, and he fondles the package awhile, and the pair go away blissful over the experience, while the treasury vault man tosses the package back on the shelf and chuckles.

"Now this is all simply a gigantic fraud on the young people. The treasury at Washington does not hold that amount of money. The bulk of the government money is at the sub-treasury in this city. That 'bridal package' is a gay deceiver. It does contain notes to the amount of $20,000,000, of the denomination of $10,000 each, but they're not money, because they're not signed. So instead of having help in their hands $20,000,000, the happy couple have fondled simply a package that represented no more value than the price of the paper and the printing on it. It may be cruel to shatter this pretty delusion, but my conscience forbids me to carry the burden of its concealment any longer. Hence, these facts."

Busy X Rays.

The X-rays are now used in the queen's kitchen. They are an instant and infallible detective of stray fish bones, plum stones and what not that may accidentally get into the royal food. The ray lifts a great weight of responsibility from the cook's mind.—What to Eat.

CHAFFEE'S SHORT-HAND SCHOOL, Will Instruct Free. Circulars Free. First Lesson Free. Address W. G. CHAFFEE, Geneva, N. Y.

LADIES A regulator that cannot fail. Particulars & proof for stamp. Box 578, Toronto, Canada

Rupture Cured At Home for $5.00. TRIAL FREE. Send for circulars. The National Rupture Co., Denver, Colo.

A Regular Yankee Trick. That's what a lady in Texas said when she saw the Parisian Sage Company's immense line of testimonials, every letter of which guarantees set satisfy or commission. Send for one of five dozen others. Sample bottle, 10c. TARRANT & CO., 44 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists.

OUTING COSTUME.

A blue and white taffeta, light blue shading into white, looks both cool and smart. The skirt, made separate from the lining, has bands of black thread lace insertion. The waist is covered with black lace put on in strips, and in

An outing costume.

front there are pleatings of chiffon between the lace bands. Over the sleeves are fine ruffles, which stand out like wings. Sash, with round wide ends, is trimmed around with narrow black lace. A small toque of black straw, with black and white tips, is worn with this odd gown.

The Tale of a Dog.

I had a little doggie once,
He was sweet enough to eat;
They took him to the sausage shop
And turned him into meat.
It made me feel awful rude,
He was one my pa and pride,
But we couldn't eat him extra,
And so we got him fried.
—Philadelphia Enquirer.

African Sense of Poetry.

"Africans," writes a missionary, "have some very striking conceptions, showing that they are full of poetical ideas. They will call the twilight 'the day's grave,' and the morning 'the day's child.' The former day is with them 'the day's child.' The latter day the twilight 'the enclasher of the sun.' An African who came to America was shown some ice, which he had not seen before, and he called it 'water fast asleep.'"—Chicago Chronicle.

A Character Touch.

"Miss Brush has achieved considerable success as a painter."

"I notice that she bears traces of her art on her face."—Philadelphia North American.

CHORUS OF FREE SILVER CALAMITY HOWLERS.

(Scene—Democratic Graveyard at midnight.)

First Spook—Where are you going with your gravestone, Andrew?

Second Spook—By the eternal, Thomas, I can't stand that infernal howl. Besides the associations here are no longer respectable. I'm going to start a new graveyard for genuine Democrats. Better get your headstone and come along.

First Spook—Lead on, I follow.

··· THE COZY CORNER ···

EUTHANASIA.

MARGARET J. PRESTON.

With the faces the dearest in sight,
With a kiss on the lips I love best,
To whisper a tender 'Good Night,'
And pass to my pillow of rest,

To kneel, all my service complete,
All duties accomplished—and then
To finish my orisons sweet
With a trustful and joyous 'Amen,'

And softly, when slumber was deep,
Unwarned by a shadow before,
On a halcyon billow of sleep
To float to the Thitherward shore.

Without a farewell or a tear,
A sob or a flutter of breath,
Unharmed by the phantom of Fear,
To glide through the darkness of death!

Just so would I choose to depart,
Just so let the summons be given;
A quiver—a pause of the heart—
A vision of angels—then Heaven!"

"A half a dozen of us girls have formed a 'Help at Home' club," writes a young woman from Kansas, "and we would be very glad if the editor of the Cozy Corner would give us some helpful hints. Our object is to make ourselves useful especially in the housekeeping in our homes, and to do all we can to make life happier for our mothers and the other members of our families.

"We did think of writing to Miss Prudence, but, on second thought we decided that she had enough to do to answer all of the questions asked by her Merry-Go-Round girls and boys, so we come to you."

This is certainly a most desirable object for a club of young women to have, and the editor is certain that much good will result from it—if the members do not grow weary of well doing—not only to the recipients of their work, but to the girls themselves. For this kind of work means much self-denial and much self-control, both of which are virtues that never fail to bring a great reward with them.

There will be no need of suggesting to these embryo housekeepers the things they ought to do, as these will present themselves in a very plain and not-to-be-misunderstood manner, and they will remain before the eyes, or sit upon the conscience of the girls in the most persistent manner, until they are properly performed.

There are a few things you should not do my dear girls, and among them are these, which I happened to notice during a recent visit to a friend's. She has three daughters who are "helping" her this summer to do the housework. As she says, "They are just the best intentioned girls in the world, but they haven't yet learned to think." From what I saw, and heard, during this visit, I advise you, if you really wish to be helpful, not to do

If mother is tired and lies down for a few moments' rest, do not ask her if she is sick, if you shall bring something to put over her shoulders, if she won't have some camphor or something, if you shall not send for the doctor, and won't she please tell you what is the matter with her, anyway.

By the time she has answered your questions the "resting time" has probably passed and she has lost the chance for a five minute nap that would have done her so much good.

If you are "housekeeper," do not forget to keep your supplies on hand, so you need not tell your mother some time when she feels particularly tired that it always seems to be just then that she hears such things that the flour is gone, there isn't more than enough sugar or butter for one meal, the potatoes were all used for yesterday dinner, the milk is sour and not one of the eggs you had counted on having for luncheon are good. It is very discouraging.

Remember that mother is sometimes helped more by being let alone for a little while than in any other way, and that for you to arrange matters so she can be absolutely quiet and free from care for a few moments each day, will give her more comfort than anything else you can do.

When there is anything to do that is a little unpleasant, do not ask if you shall do it, for there was never yet a true mother who would not do those things rather than ask her daughter to do them, so if you really mean to help, do the things that need doing and spare mother the necessity of saying anything about it.

Ever since the days of Solomon, preachers and teachers and our own experience have taught us that contentment is the one thing to be desired, if we wish for earthly happiness. We all know it, and we all resolve to be contented and not fret, or worry, let what will come; and sometimes we keep our resolutions—until the next time that something in our lives does not suit us, and then we go right on worrying.

L. W. W., ever welcome, and always bringing with her something helpful, something for us to think of and to enjoy long after we have read it, sends us her ideas of the necessity of cultivating this "sweet flower of contentment":

Dear Friends: If I was asked to give advice, and told that I could but point, as it were, in one direction, I would say: "Strive after contentment." It is the very extract of all common sense. No matter what your heart-ache, no matter what ill-condition confronts or environs you, contentment is the one, the perfect panacea.

There was a season in my own life in which living was simply a going on, ceaselessly, with a forge or strength derived from determined endurance. It was as though one mentally clinched their teeth and stood their ground against fearful odds. This was my mistaken manner of accepting and doing my duty. Now I find with grateful amaze that during every hour of that cold, dark time, I was growing, strengthening.

How much better it would have been, how much useless heartache I might have saved myself and others, if I had quietly, calmly, nobly taken the conditions of my life on trust and been content, resigned. Why will we not learn this sweet, simple lesson of contentment, in whatsoever place we find ourselves.

Is your home poor and unpleasant? Try the help of contentment. Is husband or father hard, unsympathetic? Try the softening influence of contentment. Is there hidden heartaches, or some misfortune, or cross that is known and talked of? Take my advice, and strive to be content. You will find in the end that during all these dark days in which you have been beaten by rough winds you have been growing and strengthening, as I was, and as every one has been from the beginning until now.

Some one told a nice story in a young people's paper recently, of a farmer telling a woman who was complaining about dark weather that this was good growing weather. Now let us remember this when dark days come in life.

These words, "Rest is the fitting of self to one's sphere," that used to light up the entrance way or honor seat of our Cozy Corner department, did me untold good. God alone knows how those lines helped me. It was the mustard seed in many ways.

With greetings to all.—L. W. W.

All mothers will enjoy this story by Mozart:

Well, if all are willing, I will tell them a story of Victor, something that really happened. It was two years ago when Victor was only seven. His papa had sold some pigs to a man living in a distant town, agreeing to deliver same at a certain date.

The trip would take three days to give plenty of time and expect a happy return. The time wore away very slowly indeed to Victor, whose papa had never been gone so long before and by the evening of the third day he had begun to get somewhat uneasy, running up the hill every now and then, trying to catch a glimpse of the looked-for parent. He had almost given up all hopes and was about to have his supper when papa appeared on the top of the hill, and then there was joy.

Mr. Miller, who had bought the pigs, had given Victor's papa three Brown Leghorn chickens, which Victor thought were undoubtedly the finest chickens possible to exist. The next day he did nothing, scarcely, except to walk around and admire those chickens.

It was along in the afternoon I heard seemingly a repitition of the same words over and over, and listening closely, this is what I heard Victor saying:

Mr. Augustus Miller,
He's a fine feller,
Catches hens, puts them in pens,
Gives them to his friends,
By the name of ——.

Here his papa's name occurs rhyming very well with previous lines, but I don't be lieve I will "give us away" here but will leave that to the guessers.

Now don't you think that was very well for a little seven-year-old?

W'EN MISS SUSIE CUM FRUM COLLIG.

When Mis' Susie cum from collig'
Folks jes run aroun' so wild,
'Twel I keeps a wunnering, saying,
W'y dat purty chile ain't spiled.

But de truf am, we can't spile her,
So we jes' do all we can;
Nothing common 'bout dat angel,
Vurry bes' blood in de lan'.

All de little culled chilluns
Wonder what Mis' Susie brung,
'Cose she's like her ma, an' membud
All us darkies, old and young.

W'en he ma done went to collig';
My, it seems but 'tother day—
Do, 'twas fo' dat awful 'bellion
Took so many folks away.

Many killed fur off in battle,
Sum de darkies run away,
But de good Lord seem to tell me
Wid my folkses here to stay.

Yes, I nussed this Susie's mur',
An' I nussed Mis' Susie, too,
An' we's all so glad to see her
Back, we don't know what to do.

W'y, de apples, we wont 'spectin'
To git ripe in sebral weeks
Tu'nned right mellow, and as rosy
As dat lamb's pretty cheeks.

An' de flowers in de gyarden
Seem to know Mis' Susie cum;
Dey jes' blossom out all ober
An' de beeses how dey hum.

—Lida Whitefield Wright.

"Concentration is the entire life-tendency to a given end." If that end be spiritual growth, it must be held in view every moment of the day. It must be the underlying thought regulating every action. And it is, in reality, the only thing worth struggling for, all other prizes in life being mutable and transitory."—Life's Gateways.

Young Housekeeper writes that as they (meaning I suppose herself and husband) live in the suburbs of a city their many friends find it convenient to make their home a resting place, when on their bicycle trips, or carriage rides, and as these friends always seem hungry and thirsty, she asks what would be nice to keep on hand for their late luncheons.

Of course this would depend very much upon the Young Housekeeper's income, for though she may serve very simple refreshments, she will find that the expense will "count up"—crackers, cheese, fruit, pickles, olives, shredded biscuit and potted meats are safe to have on hand, and from these a very inviting luncheon may be prepared on short notice.

At this time of the year no one cares much for hot drinks, as coffee or chocolate, so a supply of lemons or root-beer will make the best liquid refreshment for these unexpected, but-always-liable-to-drop-in guests, or a pitcher of iced tea could be prepared if you knew they were coming.

It is to be hoped that our Young Housekeeper will not have to prepare for sleighing parties when winter comes, as it will be much more work to give hot suppers to her hungry guests, but if she likes it and can afford it there is much more pleasure and comfort in these than in the cold refreshments.

A "Curious Girl" wishes to know "why jewels and cut glass should be dried in sawdust."

Because it will absorb the moisture evenly, and there is no danger of the article being scratched. That is easy to understand is it not? After the glass is removed from the sawdust, all engraving on it should be brushed with a very soft brush to remove any dust that may be lodged there.

School Girls:—The author of Cleg Kelly is S. R. Crockett, not Ian Maclaren. Mrs. Burton Harrison was a Miss Carey, of Virginia. The story is told that she and her sister made the first Confederate flag used in the war, from their ball dresses, and presented it to General Lee. I do not vouch for the truth of the story. She has written several very popular novels, and has just published a work on Old New York which is very interesting.

Tom and Jack:—Oliver Optic, author of so many boy's stories, and the great friend of all boys, died at his home in Dorchester in May of this year. His name was William T. Adams.

Of him it was said that his life was "not only long, active and honorable, but one so kindly and good; so amiable and loving, that its memory will be a precious boon to those who knew him personally and to the countless thousands who read his books." If the boys who read his books would strive to lead such a life as his, the world would be immensely improved, and the truest way for you boys to show your appreciation of Oliver Optic is to make a practical application of his principles.

THE BLADE COOK.

When Bridget rises in her might
And takes herself to sudden flight,
Then Peggy enters the domain
Where Bridget erst was wont to reign.

To rescue us from hungry plight
She plunges in unequal fight
With pots and pans, while, with delight
And pride, I watch and grow quite vain
When Peggy cooks.

How daintily she moves and light!
I know whate'er she does is right
And wholly free from mar and stain.
And yet—and yet—I find I'm fain
To sing my down-town up the night
When
Peggy
cooks.

Mrs. C. J. Spencer writes that some time ago she sent some recipes for canning vegetables, which have never appeared and she very naturally, hesitates to write again, or to send any more recipes. The Cook is very sorry, but the letter containing the information must have been lost, for she has no recollection of receiving it, and with this explanation she adds a request that Mrs. Spencer will come again and help her by sending her some recipes for such assistance will be very much appreciated.

In the heavy mail received daily at The Blade office, it is not strange that letters will occasionally be lost, or mislaid, and our correspondents must not think their favors are not welcome if they do not see them in print, at once, but notify the editor, as Mrs. Spencer so kindly did, and allow her an opportunity of explaining.

For the information of any who have not a cream freezer the following hint by Mrs. B. of Oberlin, O., may be useful. She says: "I find I can freeze water ices in a Mason fruit jar packed in a tall stone jar with less ice and trouble than in any other way. I pack the mixture to be frozen, in ice 2 hours before it is wanted. At the end of one hour, I cut it away from the sides of the jar, mix thoroughly and re-pack in the ice."

Milk Sherbet.

Pour one quart of milk into the freezer can and let it stand until ice cold, then add a batter made of the juice of three or four lemons and sugar. Stir till well mixed and then freeze. If a different flavoring be desired, a few drops of extract may be added.

Breakfast Toast.

Toast as many slices of bread as you need and remove the hard crust. Spread with potted ham and place where they will keep hot. Beat three or four eggs, season with salt and pepper, add one-half cupful of milk, turn into a hot buttered pan and stir till the egg is slightly thickened, then pour over the toast and serve very hot.

A Nice Luncheon Dish.

In an earthen sauce pan put I can of tomatoes, or their equal in fresh fruit, 10 drops of onion juice salt, pepper and spices to taste and let it cook till the tomato is soft enough to press through a sieve. Do this and add one-third of a box of gelatine that has been soaked in one-third cupful of cold water till it is dissolved. Add 1½ tablespoonfuls of vinegar and mix all thoroughly. Pour this around a chicken salad which has been heaped in the middle of a platter and when cold, serve with a garnish of lettuce leaves and mayonaise. If preferred the jelly may be poured into small cups or molds and served by itself.

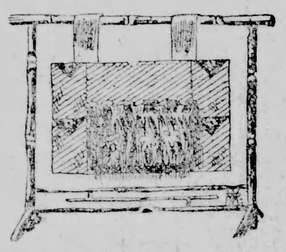
The "christening cake of the little Princess of York" says a New York paper, "was 3 feet high, 26 inches in diameter, and weighed 75 pounds. It stood upon a silver stand and the decoration on the top was a lily surrounded by lilies of the valley. In the heart of the lily, surrounded by costly lace and white satin ribbons slept a tiny baby. Above it, upheld by Cupid was a lace canopy surmounted by a banner upon which was wrought in silver the royal coronet and the initials of the little maiden's name—Victoria, Alexandra, Alice, Mary."

And to think that the dear little baby for whom this work of art and marvel of the confectioners' skill was made, couldn't eat a bit of it!

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

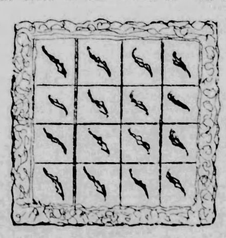
During the summer when the grate fires are not used something must be placed in them to hide their emptiness. A fire-board is sometimes used, but that prevents the ventilation of the room that is secured by means of an open grate. Curtains of silkolene, or heavier material, are appropriate, and in one home I know of the opening in the chimney is always filled with boughs of the fragrant pine, relieved from sombreness by a vase of bright flowers placed in front of it.

A very pretty screen can be made like the cut given here. The frame is of bamboo strips and the filling of silk, with a



pocket of some contrasting color. This can be used in winter as well as summer, and the pocket will be found useful for holding a piece of work you may wish to have handy when you are sitting around the fire. Frances Howard sends the idea and directions for making this.

Pretty covers for the bedroom furnishings can be made from the checked glass toweling. Select a piece that has rather large checks, and in each alternate check outline a bachelor button or some other flower, choosing one that will correspond to the color of the check in the linen.



Finish with coarse lace, either crocheted or knit, or the pillow-case edging that can be bought for 10 or 12 cents a yard. Couch covers and bedspreads can be made of this material to match the dresser covers.

When the tapestries that have taken so many months of patient labor to produce become soiled, it is a question with many how they may be cleaned. A writer in the Delineator gives this as a certain and safe method: "First free them from all dust and then brush them firmly with burning fluid. This will not only brighten and purify them, but will preserve them from insects. The work should be done on a clear, warm day so that the windows and doors may be left open to allow the fumes of the fluid to quickly evaporate."

I suppose that by "burning fluid" is meant gasoline, which will, undoubtedly, do all that is required. Great care should always be taken that there is no fire or artificial light near when gasoline is used.

Right Pronunciation.

Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, was chatting with some of his friends on the floor of the House and suddenly mentioned, apropos of nothing in particular, that the proper pronunciation of a word frequently had an important effect on a man's career. "Years ago," said Mr. Hepburn, "when I was a young man I secured the appointment as clerk to the General Assembly in Iowa because another man who had been elected to that position pronounced the name of the Sioux River incorrectly. This man had been formally elected to succeed me and was not prepared to read the message of the governor and the ex-governor, whose last report was submitted to the legislature at the same time. It so happened that each of these gentlemen referred to the Big Sioux River, and I conveniently stepped down from the platform so that he might have an opportunity to demonstrate his fitness for the position to which he had been elected. As soon as he reached the reference to the Big Sioux instead of pronouncing the word 'Soo' he pronounced it 'Syocks.' The result of it was that just as that day's session was about to adjourn the Republican leader on the floor arose and requested all Republican members to remain for a conference after adjournment. At that conference it was suggested that the new clerk be requested to resign at once, and by acclamation I was chosen to succeed him. I lay that fact entirely to the mispronunciation of the name of the Big Sioux River.

RECENT CHANGES

IN THE LITERARY LIFE OF ENGLAND AND IN ITS LITERATURE.

The Same Changes Traceable in the United States—Danger of Superficial Thinking.

I read with a great deal of interest a brilliant article from the pen of Edmund Gosse in the current number of the North American Review, entitled Ten Years of English Literature, in which he shows how swift have been the changes in the literary life of England within the years from 1887 to 1897. Following the line of his thought and we find in a general way, the same conditions in this country, and there are certain things which, therefore, are worth considering.

In the beginning he notes that intellectual life follows the same law which prevails throughout everything, that is, the law of cycles. There is the rise and fall, the ebb and flow, or, to put in in his own words: "There have always been bursts of genius, followed by pauses or drops into mediocrity, and in England at least these have been noticeable ever since the art of verse, lifted so high in the hands of Chaucer, fell so low in those of his immediate successors." This gradual growth towards a great height and then the falling away again is visible even to the careless observer as being true in many other things in life beside literature, and, in fact, it runs through everything, for as I said before, it is undoubtedly a law that all things go in cycles.

During the last ten years many of what may be called the landmarks of literature in England have been removed, seeming almost, so many are they, as if the rush of events in this closing of the nineteenth century was making itself felt as strongly in this direction as in any other. The list is a long one, and almost every name is as familiar upon this side of the water as in their native haunts and among their own countrymen. Today, Mr. Gosse says, there are but two of the older writers whose appearance on a public occasion could excite universal enthusiasm, and these are Ruskin and Herbert Spencer, Mr. Gladstone having won far more fame through his public life than by his writings. Sadly enough, "Mr. Ruskin, quite unseen at Coniston, has practically, alas! joined the chorus of those invisible singers whose births made the second decade of this country so incomparably splendid." Only Herbert Spencer is left and there are none who have yet arisen to take their places.

A very grave feature of the time, Mr. Gosse thinks, is the almost entire cessation of activity in the higher branches of literature. Great genius is visible in no especial line. Fiction, it is true, has flourished in an extremely disproportionate degree, but I am not surprised to find him saying that only a few of the novels are really great, "many of them are interesting and amusing, but a majority are wholly worthless, mere cumberings of the press," the writers to be drowned "in immediate and final oblivion a few months after the issue of their books."

This is as true in the United States as in England. One who looks over the vast mass of novels that pour from the press will wonder at the marvelous amount of production. But it is to be considered that almost everything is brought before the public in the form of a story. Sometimes the plot is a very meager one, but it is evident that the person who has something to tell or to teach believes this to be the form which will best reach the minds of the people. This is really not a fortunate condition for it prevents thinking clearly and to a purpose along any definite line.

Mr. Gosse says: "The result of all this is that, to an extent which ought to occasion all serious observers no little alarm, the great reading public is rapidly becoming unable to assimilate any ideas at all, and to appreciate impressions it requires to have them presented to it in the form of a story. The multitude of readers grows every hour, but with these masses those individuals become fewer and fewer who are able to follow the pathways of thought without the help of knowing what Edwin did and what Angelina wore."

These words sound rather sarcastic, but in this part of his essay lies what, it seems to me, is of the greatest importance to both sides of the ocean. It is the truth that we, as a people, are growing less and less desirous of going to the heart of things in our investigation of any subject. Habitually we are superficial, and the matter is becoming worse instead of better. "It is more than probable," writes Mr. Gosse, "that Buckle and Newman, if not Mr. Ruskin, would have resigned themselves to the inevitable, and have tried to present their views and convictions in the form of tales." And why? Because they would have feared that their messages would not be received in any other way.

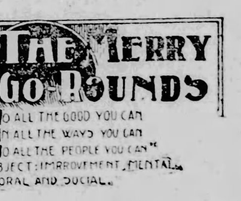
Perhaps it is the restless energy which sends us from one thing to another without pause that brings such a state of things. And then we like to be amused, and if we can take our philosophy, our moral teachings, our religion in a way that will give us entertainment at the same time, that is what we seek to do. Even these great social problems in which are involved the well being of millions of people are dealt with through the medium of fiction.

This growing disinclination to receive information unless with it can be combined something to stimulate the emotions does not promise well for the intellectual growth of the future. There is one thing, however, that individuals can do to bring a change. They can refuse to take aught in the way of fiction but the best. They can cease devouring in unrestricted quantities those novels which Mr. Gosse says are manufactured to be thrown away. Fiction has its purposes; it has its good work to do, but taken as the sole literary diet, it weakens the mental powers; it clouds the reasoning faculties. To be convinced by a powerful novel that a thing is true and then to attempt to order the life at once upon such a conviction is as dangerous as to be carried away by the eloquence of the faultless orator, and no more likely to be permanent in its results.

These things are evils, not necessarily permanent, but certainly to be regretted and checked, and therefore an article like this of Mr. Gosse is to be welcomed. There is a happy medium both for nations and individuals between a cold and critical intellectuality and a purely material or emotional literary expression.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"Pat," said his reverence, "I shall be very busy this afternoon, and if any one calls I do not wish to be disturbed." "All right, sor, will I tell them you're not in?" "No, Pat, that would be a lie." "An' phat'll I say, yer reverence?" "Oh, just put them off with an evasive answer." At supper time Pat was asked if any one had called. "Faix, there did." "And what did you tell him?" said the priest. "Sure, an' I give him an evasive answer." "How was that?" queried his reverence. "He axed me was yer honor in, an' I sez to him, sez I, 'Was yer grandmother a hoot-owl?'"



Of all the receptions held in the United States, Miss Prudence is very certain that there are none that are pleasanter or more fully attended than those she holds with her M. G. R. young people every week. The guests come from so many different cities and states, and they are all such jolly, happy, wholesome girls and boys, that it no wonder that their Chaperone always hurrys up her other work so as to be ready to visit with them.

Her only regret is that her rooms are so small that she cannot receive all who come each week, but then they are so obliging that they do what they can to help her by waiting so patiently that it makes her love them more than ever. This week we will have a little visit with some who have been waiting quite a while.

Once in a while comes a word of sorrow into our midst. This morning the first letter that was opened was from Flo, enclosing a notice of the death of her only sister, who was known to the M. G. R.'s as Valentine. The letter was such a pitiful little broken-hearted cry, that it made Miss Prudence want to take Flo right in her arms and comfort her, and she is sure that every M. G. R. will send their most sincere sympathy to this one of their number who finds her life "so lonely" without her only sister, who had been so much to her since their mother died.

Next to this letter came, as if to illustrate how near together come sorrow and joy, one from Pajarito, telling of the marriage of our former State President for California, who is now Mrs. Blanche Sherwood. To her we send best wishes, feeling, as Green Mountain Boy writes in reference to New England Girl, that "our loss is the good man's gain."

Two sisters, Golden Daisy and Tatters, come with the pieces of writing, to ask for admission. To all of their inquiries Miss Prudence answers yes; Isabel brings an excuse for having written on both sides of her paper the other time. It is a funny excuse but Miss Prudence accepts it, and will keep it for her own private enjoyment.

Leal tells of some Indian curiosities she has, and which you shall all hear about before long.

Diomed, Red-bird, Winnifred C., Sissy McNaughton, Green Mountain Boy, Isabel and Missouri Brunette are waiting to say a great many pleasant things to you as soon as possible. We hope to see them all at the picnic.

Miss Prudence has to thank Red-bird for a card of the loveliest pressed pansies that she ever saw. Not only are they very beautiful in themselves, but the manner in which they have been arranged so as to preserve the natural colors, shows the hand of a very skillful artist.

An inquiry was sent to the Cozy Corner recently regarding that very thing, and Red-bird might be able to tell "how she does it" for the benefit of others.

While we are still admiring the pansies, let us listen to Lectern, who comes sauntering in this morning looking as bright and happy as possible. We shall expect a little speech from him at the picnic.

Dear M. G. R's:—I wish we could have all been as fortunate as Lapsus Calami was when feasting his eyes upon that beautiful scenery.

County Greeney:—I enjoyed reading the enumeration of the different pieces of the Indian relics in your collection.

I think the text book system and compulsory education has almost received enough discussion. I believe in both, and especially the latter.

Miss Prudence, by all means a midsummer picnic. I wish you would suggest a subject and place us at work, if it is warm weather.

After a long absence, Nellie, of Indiana, comes again. Of course, the Chaperone will pardon any unavoidable absence, and welcome the absentees whenever they come:

If our Chaperone will pardon me for being absent for so long, I will again visit the merry members of the M. G. R. circle. I am sure that every one Welcomes Vivian, for a boy that is loyal to his sister, makes a loyal friend. I have two brothers, but they are very small, (but I do not think the less of them for that).

Isabel, I too, can sympathize with any one who has to wash dishes. Boys, I do not believe that you have to do such dreadful work as washing dishes, do you?

Jack Stubbs, your name is all right. Just be as good as it is, and you will pass without difficulty.

Yes, Thelma, the boys have greatly improved because of the numerous lectures they have received. But, no doubt, we girls need a few lectures too, do we not?

I would say that if being the son of a saloonkeeper was the only objection a girl had for such a young man, she should look over that, as it is his father's sin, not his.

Miss Prudence is sure that Country Greeney could not be frightened by dishwashing, if his letter is any criterion of his accomplishments:

Country Greeney is one who does, and always has, taken delight in lightening the work of mother, sister and wife. When I was single and lived at home I took special pride and delight in doing all I could to help mother and sister. Many is the time I have prepared breakfast while they slept.

Mother had taught me from boyhood to do all kinds of housework. I can cook, wash dishes, "and keep the house clean." I can wash, iron, darn, mend my own (or any one else's) clothes as neat as any woman can.

And now that I am married I have not lost my taste for such things. I take just as much interest and pleasure in doing all such things for my wife as I did at home.

Many a happy hour we have spent piecing quilts. We have pieced 12 quilts and I have cut the pieces for all. I have done my part of the sewing and quilting as well. I have a silk crazy quilt all my own make, and it is pronounced to be the finest piece of needlework anywhere around here.

I always do with my might what my hands find to do. I can do almost any kind of work, such as painting, paper hanging, plastering, topping out chimneys, repairing and upholstering furniture, wood carving, make grave stones, do boot and shoe repairing, and all kinds of odd jobs. People here call me the "handy man of this town." "For particulars see small bills."

A "Kicker" from Indiana is very much in favor of our midsummer picnic, and is particularly anxious that a place be chosen where there are abundant water privileges. He is also pleased with the suggestion of a literary club for those of the M. G. R. who enjoy "such things."

Household Pet belongs to the circle of girls whose motto is: "The life that touch liquor shall never touch mine," and she gives fair warning that before she promises to marry a man, he must sign the temperance pledge.

Floyd Claxton is a very courageous young man to enter a society containing so many girls as the M. G. R., and express himself as he does in regard to girls generally. The Chaperone is very certain that he cannot help but change his opinions after he has become acquainted with her girls:

An acquaintance of mine once took a grist to the mill to be ground, but the miller refused to accept it, saying that he never took new customers. Since then I have spent some time in wondering how he got his old ones, and what he was going to do when they all died off. I hope Miss Prudence has no objection to new customers.

One of the M. G. R.'s wishes to know if a girl should go with a boy who smokes, drinks and swears. I don't think she should, but I believe girls would be a very lonesome lot if they didn't, as so many of the boys are guilty of those habits. There are those, too, like me, who have not formed the habits yet refuse to go with the girls. I wonder if any of the other M. G. R.'s dislike girls.

Cloris wishes us to discuss the possibilities of the future woman. With the new woman nothing is impossible, but the possibilities are that ere long the other members of her sex will become disgusted with her. It seems to me that if women would keep away from the professions usually supposed to be masculine the world would be the better for it. She should devote herself more to the home, for in its preservation lies the future hope of our nation. No one who has not "been there" can appreciate how much a man's morals depend on his digestion.

It does not seem to me as if illiterate people should be allowed to vote, but it is utterly impossible to draw the line with any degree of justice so we will have to abide by our present method and trust to luck for good politics.

Some men who are generally considered as ignorant are much better qualified for suffrage than others who are well educated.

I have heard a great deal about the model young man and woman, but I have never seen either one of them.

Will some one please tell me why so many respectable girls prefer "bums" to steady young men?

First, Floyd must prove that the "respectable" girls do prefer "bums," whatever they may be.

Mountain Ranger presents a very good argument against the compulsory school law in country districts: I am not very much in favor of the compulsory school law, especially for country districts, as it is often almost impossible to send children a great part of the time on account of the long distance and bad roads to be traveled to reach a school-house. Of course I am in favor of children getting all the education they can, but think there should be some better provision made for children living a long distance from a school than has been made in the compulsory law recently passed in this state.

West Virginia School-girl, I think it is a pretty hard question to decide which is the worst—a man that drinks, swears and uses tobacco, or one that would cheat, lie and steal; I think either is bad enough, but if you just hold to your ideal you will be sure to get a good husband for a man that is a true Christian could not be anything else than good.

In my opinion the claim of German Ignoramus in regard to children speaking to their elders is correct.

Bonnie Burnie, if the girls would all stick to the motto: The lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine, there would be a great deal less drinking done than there is at present.

Rover, the Badger, makes a suggestion that is worthy the attention of every young person. We hope he will turn his "roving" footsteps in this direction often:

Allow me to express myself on the social relation held by a saloonkeeper's son. Doubtless you are all aware of the evils of the liquor traffic, and I hope you are its foe, but, young people, are you aware and do you fully realize your influence upon the opposite sex? Flowers bloom and decay, but your influence, good or bad, is scattered abroad and lives eternally.

Isabel has turned farmer, or farmeress this summer, but finds a little time to send a word of greeting to her M. G. R. friends. Miss Prudence would be glad to have more of her girls and boys called "silverites" for the same reason that Isabel was:

I have been making hay these last two weeks. Right here allow me to say to Jack Stubbs if you are of as poor quality as the hay in this section, you are very near a failure. How ridiculous! perfectly absurd! As old as you are you should know girls don't eat hay but candy and ice cream. I believe it's a very common thing for all the young men to forget this one item.

Susie, it's no "secret," wait until you are old enough to wash, iron, scrub, sweep etc., then you will say give me dish-washing.

I wonder how many of our stenographers study the "Ben Pitman System?" I do.

Looking out of the east window I see dozens of hawks flying over that New England chicken farm. I don't think that "scare crow" is much good. N. E. Girl, I can "shoot" too. Once when I caught a hawk in a trap I was so excited I killed him with a club forgetting all about the gun.

I always believed it wicked to cage birds but if the Raven ever again flies into the circle I, for one, will volunteer to help drive him in a cage and lock the door.

Just hear Sam Ignotus snore! My, hasn't he been asleep a long time?

Must tell you what a nice (?) compliment I received the other day. I met some old friends and looking at my badge they said: "I did not know you was a silverite."

Ahem-er-I-I'm "goin'." Miss Prudence is looking very stern and all the while "pointin'" at the door.

··· OUR YOUNG FOLKS ···

BABY BUNTING.

On the old stone step of a doorway tall,
Where the shadows lie cool and deep,
A wee little woman of half-past three,
Is singing her baby to sleep.
Crooning a lullaby soft and low,
Happy the sweet summer long,
With the old rag doll she is lulling to sleep
With this musty old cradle song:

"By, O, baby buntin',
Daddy's gone a-buntin'—
Get a little wabbit skin
To wa'p the bye-bye baby in."

In an old churchyard where the sunbeams peep
Through a tangle of roses red,
The sweet little woman lies fast asleep
In a little white marble bed.
A motherless doll, with a broken arm,
Is waiting the sad summer long,
For this dear little woman of half-past three,
Who sang her this cradle song:

"By, O, baby buntin',
Daddy's gone a-buntin'—
Get a little wabbit skin
To wa'p the bye-bye baby in."

The sunbeams lie in a silver sheen
In patches upon the floor;
A phantom wearing a baby's face
Looks in at the open door.
A mother waits with empty arms,
Sobbing the lone summer long,
As an echo steals to her darling's place
With this blessed old cradle song:

"By, O, baby buntin',
Daddy's gone a-buntin'—
Get a little wabbit skin
To wa'p the bye-bye baby in."

—Will Allen Dromgoole in New Orleans Times-Democrat.

THE BIRTHPLACE OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

[Concluded.]

The Lincoln Spring Farm is three miles from this quaint old town, on Nolin's Creek, directly on the public road leading from Hodgesville to Buffalo, a village six miles to the east. It is a pleasant twenty-minutes' drive over a good dirt road, through a poor, but interesting country.

The original Lincoln cabin had been torn down and the materials had been moved away, as stated, by a man named Tom Davenport, who used the logs in his own house.

Mr. A. W. Dennett, a New York gentleman, not long ago bought the Davenport house, recovered the logs, and, after much difficulty, restored the cabin exactly as it was originally, using the very same timbers, door, window, and frames. It occupies the former site, and is in much the same condition as it was in when the Lincolns left it. The cabin is eighteen feet long, sixteen feet wide, and about twelve feet high, counting from the floor to the ridge pole. There is only one door and one window—the latter an opening twenty inches square. A large open fireplace built in the most primitive

way occupies nearly the whole end of the cabin. The chimney is made of small logs, placed together just as log-houses are built. Inside of it, flat stones placed on the ground made the hearth, and wide flat stones placed against the logs kept the fire within bounds and protected the wooden chimney. The inside, from the hearthstones to the top of the chimney, was thickly daubed with clay. The chimney reaches only half-way to the roof of the house, and is rounded off with small sticks. This simple fireplace furnished most of the light, all of the heat, and the sole means for cooking the meals for the family. The cabin did not have even a loft, or second story, as have most cabins. It was built by Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, some time about 1807 or 1808, and was entirely constructed with an ax and saw, the simple tools of the pioneers. The clapboard roof was anchored down by small logs, laid lengthwise on top of the rows of oak boards. There were no nails or hardware. The door-hinges were of wood, and the paneless windows had an inside board-shutter, held in place by two rawhide thongs. There were chinks and mud between the logs, and the puncheon floor was pegged down. It is said that after Abraham Lincoln's grandfather was killed by the Indians at Long Run Meeting-house, in Jefferson county, Ky., the family went further into the forest, and took up a section of land in La Rue, then part of Hardin county. Later, to better his fortune, Thomas Lincoln left this farm on Nolin's Creek, and settled on Rush Creek, a dozen miles from Hodgensville, and from there he went to Indiana, and later to Illinois.

The Lincoln Spring Farm takes its name from a magnificent spring at the foot of the hill, on the crest of which the cabin stands. It is about one hundred and fifty feet from the house, and this beautiful spring undoubtedly attracted the attention of Thomas Lincoln. Under a cluster of huge oak trees there is a circular depression in the ground, fifty feet in diameter, and about fifteen feet deep. One side of this is solid limestone, an overhanging ledge forming the covering for a spring of clear, cool water that issues from a cleft in the rocks, falling a distance of four or five feet. The water gurgles and sputters as it falls from one ledge of the rock to another, and makes its way down into the earth through a natural cavern, or "sink-hole," as the natives call it. The country is hilly, and there are many caves, and this overflow that so mysteriously disappears probably escapes through some underground channel like the rivers that flow through the Mammoth Cave in Edmonson county, forty miles away. There are also disappearing rivers, or creeks, in this section of Kentucky. Streams sometimes end abruptly, disappearing in the ground without any visible outlet, and reappearing miles away in a like mysterious manner.

The oldest inhabitants agree that the place has always been called "The Lincoln Spring," and it is more than likely that the future President played, until four or five years of age, under the shade trees around this beautiful natural fountain. The new owner of the place wishes to convert it into a national park, a sort of patriotic Mecca, as has been done at Mount Vernon. The property, which is surrounded by a good substantial fence, the old, sterile hillsides have been plowed up, and the slopes are covered with grass. Most of the young trees have been trimmed and left standing, and in a few years the old farm will become a spot of great beauty.

The revival of interest in the early career of the great War President has caused many people to make pilgrimages to the primitive city of Hodgensville, a place of about 1,000 inhabitants. Many people come in search of Lincoln relics. Very recently, a queerly-made iron candle-stick was plowed up near the cabin, and it is the general belief that it was made by the President's father, who had a small blacksmith forge in his yard.

The family having moved to Indiana when Abraham was about nine years old, and very soon thereafter to Illinois, the serious part of young Lincoln's life began. He worked day and night, and read borrowed books until he had gained a fair education, and was finally enabled to begin the practice of law. The life of Lincoln after his thirtieth year is familiar to almost every boy and girl in the wide land.

There was not a year's difference between the ages of Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis; and it is interesting fact that the President of the Confederacy also was born in Kentucky, and within a hundred miles of the log-cabin that was the birthplace of President Lincoln.

A Wonderful Cat.

In the Treasury department at Washington there is a very wonderful cat, bright. When this Churchill cat was told to "Go play the piano" she would immediately walk back and forth upon the keys of the baby-grand in the boudoir. "Now sit for your picture!" meant to assume a demure position, with her paws in line, her tail neatly curled around them, and her head nicely bent to one side as if trying to "look pleasant."—Henry Granville, in Our Dumb Animals.

OUR WONDER COLUMN

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born at Peckham, England, May 7, 1812. He began to scribble poetry when eight years old. He attended a private school until fourteen, and then had a private tutor. First poem published when he was 21. Was married in 1846 and settled at Florence, Italy, where his wife died fifteen years later. In 1863 his poetical works were published in three volumes, followed by several volumes of tragedy and dramatic idyls. By many he is regarded as the greatest poet since Milton. He died in Venice, Italy, December 12, 1889.

N. E. GIRL.

2.—GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

I am a fortified city of France. Transpose, and I am a European race. Change my last three letters and I am a town north of Bombay. Change my head and I am a county of Alabama. Curtail and change my second letter and I am a city of Peru. Change my two middle letters, and I am a river of Northern Asia. Change my first two letters and I

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every edu-

REPRESENTATIVE GRIFFITH.

Successor to the Late W. L. Holman, "Watch-Dog of the Treasury."

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 12.—The majority of Griffith (Dem.) over Lee (Rep.) in the special election for Congress in the Fourth Indiana district held yesterday is 2,152, Holman's majority last No-

FRANCIS M. GRIFFITH.
Congressman-elect Fourth District, Indiana.

vember was 825. The Populists had no candidate against Holman, but M. W. Browder was their candidate this year. He received about 600 votes.

Mr. Griffith taught school in early manhood back in 1873 and later became a lawyer. In 1886 and 1890 he was elected state senator for Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland counties. In 1894 he led the forlorn hope of his party as candidate for attorney general and stumped the entire state. In 1896 he was an ardent supporter of Bryan and did the heaviest campaign work in the state. Mr. Griffith was married in 1874 and has a family of five children. He is an exceedingly popular man.

CARING FOR GRAIN.

Large Fleet of Vessels Left England in Ballast.

Philadelphia, Aug. 11.—The Record today says: The largest fleet of vessels that ever left England in ballast has sailed within the last week for the Delaware Breakwater and Hampton Roads for orders. Their owners have found it more profitable to send them without cargoes than to have them wait for one. The machinery of some of them is rather antiquated, but the demand for steam tonnage has induced their owners to give them another trial in competing with the more modern craft. Several vessels arrived at the Delaware Breakwater yesterday from Europe in search of business.

Large purchases of grain have been made in this country by Italy, Austria, France and Egypt, countries which rarely before have purchased cereals in the United States. Several charters have been effected at this port to carry grain to Marseilles, Genoa, Triste and Alexandria and other Mediterranean ports.

VIRGINIA DEMOCRATS.

Second Day of the Convention—Candidates Nominated.

Roanoke, Va., Aug. 12.—The Democratic state convention opened the second day's session this morning at 10 o'clock.

J. Hoge Tyler and Edward Echols having been nominated last night for governor and lieutenant-governor respectively, the work of to-day was the choice of attorney general and the adoption of the platform. The convention unanimously adopted a resolution heartily and cordially endorsing the campaign of Senator John W. Daniel to become his own successor.

The candidates placed before the convention for nomination as attorney general were A. J. Montague, F. R. Lassiter, W. R. Alexander, H. R. Pollard, and Lloyd T. Smith. The first ballot resulted in a failure to nominate, but with Montague leading.

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT.

How the Different Army Corps Will Meet at Buffalo.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 13.—Dates for army corps reunions during encampment week have been arranged as follows:

Tuesday, Aug. 24th, First and Fifth Army Corps, 3 to 5 p. m., Second and Third Army Corps, 5 to 7 p. m.

Thursday, Aug. 26th, Seventh, Eleventh, Twelfth and Twentieth Army Corps, 9 to 11 a. m.; Eighth and Nineteenth Army Corps, 11 to 1 p. m.; Sixth Army Corps, 1 to 3 p. m.; Ninth and Eighteenth Army Corps, 3 to 5 p. m.

Friday, Aug. 27, Fourth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Army Corps, 9 to 11 a. m.; Fifteenth and Sixteenth Army Corps, 11 to 1 p. m.; Seventeenth and Twenty-second Army Corps, 1 to 3 p. m.; Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Army Corps, 3 to 5 p. m.

JAPAN'S CURRENCY

Will Be Upon a Gold Standard Basis After October.

San Francisco, Aug. 11.—The steamer Peru has arrived from Yokohama via Hong Kong with the following Japanese advices:

There is no doubt whatever that from Oct. 1 next Japan will have a gold currency. A circular issued by the Specie Bank announces that from that date it will pay gold for Bank of Japan notes. The Osaka mint is very busy at present, minting new gold coins, the 20 yen coin being struck first. The project is to mint 10,000,000 yen worth of subsidiary coins, including 50 sen coin within the year. In order to expedite the issuance of the new coins the usual summer vacation of officers has been dispensed with.

TIN PLATE EXPORTED.

First Shipment Abroad Made Wednesday From Indiana.

Elwood, Ind., Aug. 12.—The first tin plate manufactured in America to be sent to Europe is, according to the local manufacturers, that started Wednesday by the American Tin Plate Company, of Elwood, on its way to Italy. It was a carload, consisting of 500 boxes of the most expensive tin plate made here and it is said that this will be followed by other shipments, because of a growing demand abroad for American tin plate. The company will to-morrow make a similar shipment to England.

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY

Will Be Present at the Opening of the State Fair at Columbus.

Columbus, O., Aug. 12.—President McKinley has accepted an invitation to attend the Ohio state fair at Columbus, opening August 31.

Silver Republican Committee.

Duluth, Minn., Aug. 17.—Chairman Towne has announced the executive committee of the national silver Republican party. The members are: Chairman Fred T. Dubois, Idaho; Judge J. J. Harper, of Washington, C. H. O. Ben S. Dean, of Jamestown N. Y.; A. M. Stevenson, of Denver, Col.; Nathan Cole, jr., of Los Angeles, Cal.; James H. Temer, of Chicago, and Chas. S. Hartman, of Bozeman, Mont.

Senator Hansbrough Married.

New York, Aug. 17.—Henry C. Hansbrough, United States senator from North Dakota, and Miss Mary Berri Chapman, of Washington, D. C., were married at the Hotel Burlington, in this city yesterday.

STEWART AND JONES.

Great Silver Leaders Who Have Discovered Prosperity.

New York, Aug. 12.—The Times to-day publishes the following: Senator Stewart is one of the latest converts to commercial optimism. He is a "bull" on everything except silver. He is engaged in a vigorous campaign in Wall street and said yesterday that he had heard so much about better times that he has determined to "gather in a part of the prosperity which is not only rampant in the street, but throughout the land."

When asked what had brought about this change in his views he said: "There is no room for pessimism in this country. No one can be a "bear" in the face of the wheat famine in Argentina, Russia, Hungary and India. In view of these conditions abroad, I should not be surprised to see silver sell as low as 25 cents and wheat as high as a dollar. There is nothing in talking silver at the present time, and my advice to my friends in the west is to fall into line with the forces of prosperity and progress and receive their due share of the reward.

"The time has passed for the old issues. We must turn to face new issues and new conditions. I frequently hear it said that this security market is a duplicate of the market of 1873. It is not. It is more of a bull market. All a man has to do is to get into it, go to sleep and get rich. The wheat situation in the west will make every railway not a dividend earner but a dividend payer. Railroads that have been moribund for years are now taxed to their fullest capacity and are still unable to accomodate their traffic. I am told that there is imminent danger of a car famine on many of the most important lines traversing this country."

"Are the people in the West alive to this new situation?"

"The people in the West," he replied, "are wide awake. They know a good thing when they see it. Most of them are hanging on to their cereals with confidence born of hope and actual knowledge of what is going on around them. With their immense crops they will be able not only to liquidate their indebtedness to the money sharks of the East, but will inaugurate a buying movement that will surprise the people in this part of the country. I think that by the late fall the truth of what I said and reiterated during the campaign will be generally recognized and this is that there can be no general prosperity in this country that is not born and sustained in the West."

Senator Jones, Too.

Senator John P. Jones, of Nevada, who is spending a vacation in this city, said yesterday that the continued fall in the price of silver ought not to surprise any one.

"Silver is falling in commercial price," he said, "because of a falling off of the demands for it as money. Japan has gone on a gold basis and so lessened the demand for silver. Beside this there has been, because of universal hard times, a great falling off in purchases in the East. The Oriental countries use silver money, and our purchases are paid in that metal. This demand has been cut off by reason of the hard times."

Of the increase in gold production in Alaska Mr. Jones said: "I am not opposed to prosperity through an increase in gold. The Republicans are very lucky and I congratulate them on the fact that this great discovery falls within their administration. I believe a great deal of gold will be found in Alaska, and it is certain to restore prosperity, for which the Republicans will claim and receive the credit. I shall welcome its return, whether through gold or silver. Much glorification and congratulation is heard over the fact that our Western wheat is going up to a dollar because of famine in Argentina, Russia, India and other countries. I do not like to think that our prosperity is founded upon destitution and starvation in foreign nations. I want to see a flood of money turn the idle mill wheels and irrigate the waste places of our land.

"Another result that will follow from an abundance of money, be it silver or gold, will be abeyance of this hatred of the trusts. The people hate trusts and only prosperity will drive monopolies out of their minds. Plenty of money will also crush out the trusts. They flourish only in hard times."

GOLD IN NICARAGUA.

Reports of Rich Diggings in the Tropics.

New Orleans, La., Aug. 12.—A new gold field has been discovered, but this one is in the tropics. Reports have come to this city lately that big finds of gold have been made in Nicaragua, and the steamers from that section have been bringing in gold dust in proof of it.

S. E. Spence, a well-known citizen of Houston, Tex., arrived here yesterday on the steamer Fulton, plying between New Orleans and Nicaraguan ports, and confirmed the stories about the discoveries in Nicaragua. He says he has been all over the gold fields district, and that gold is there in large quantities. He has acquired valuable claims, and will return as soon as he can make arrangements to work them. He says the whole gold section down there is very rich, and the climate splendid. He says unemployed miners will do much better there than in attempting to go to Alaska. Food in Nicaragua is cheap, and other costs are reasonable.

California Nuggets.

Redding, Cal., Aug. 12.—News was received here last night from Coffee Creek to the effect that $40,000 more of gold dust and nuggets were taken out Tuesday afternoon from the pocket out of which the Graves brothers took their $42,000 last Saturday.

Another exceedingly rich discovery of gold is reported on Morrison Gulch about two miles from the scene of the Graves brothers discovery. It is said $18,000 was taken out in one afternoon, and that two miners are taking out gold on an average of $40 to the pan. This strike is on the same vein of the Graves claim, and is supposed to be an extension of the same.

BIG LUMP.

Nugget of Gold Worth $42,000 Found in the New California Fields.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 13.—Stories of the rich gold strikes in Trinity county are confirmed and the rush to the new fields is tremendous. Miners are washing out from $5 to $40 worth of gold to the pen. Last week a nugget was taken out worth $42,000. This is the largest ever found in the world, and the excitement here is intense. Many who intended going to the Klondyke have changed their plans and started for Trinity county.

HOG CHOLERA.

Railroad Company Has a Remedy That is Effective.

Dubuque, Ia., Aug. 17.—The fact that hog cholera is curable has again been demonstrated on the farm of the Dubuque fruit and produce committee near this city where under the direction of Division Fruit Agent Clemens, of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road 54 out of 62 sick hogs were treated and saved. Last year 3,000,000 hogs died in Iowa of this disease. The agents of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company have been using their remedy for over a year and have succeeded in saving fully 90 per cent of the hogs treated along the line of their road.

DISCREDITABLE REPUTATION.

Colorado as a Silver State Unable to Sell Bonds at a Premium.

Chicago, Aug. 16.—The State of Colorado has just sold at par an issue of 225 $1,000 bonds bearing 4 per cent. interest, to a Chicago bond house. The state officials expected to sell the bonds at from 6 to 10 per cent. premium.

The big discount on their expectations —amounting in round figures to $25,000 —the state officials found was entirely due to the discredited reputation the state has earned through its position of leadership among the states professing the repudiation doctrine of 16 to 1.

THAT INJUNCTION.

Most Sweeping One Granted New York and Cleveland Gas Coal Co.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 12.—The much talked-of bill for an injunction against the United Mine Workers' that was to have been filed in the United States courts, was filed in the county courts about noon by counsel for the New York & Cleveland Gas Coal Co. The defendants named are the United Mine Workers' of American, Patrick Dolan, president; Edward McKay vice-president; William Warner, secretary and treasurer and others. The plaintiff company sets forth that it is a corporation under the laws of Pennsylvania, with a capital of a million dollars invested in coal lands of Pennsylvania. Three of their mines, employing 1,200 men, are at Plum Creek, Turtle Creek and Sandy Creek. The bill then recites the conditions prevailing at their mines since the strike begun, and alleges that the strikers have paid no attention to the sheriff's proclamation, and that the lives of the miners and the property of the company are in danger.

Judge Collier granted a preliminary injunction restraining and enjoining the defendants from assembling, marching or encamping in proximity to the mines and houses of the miners for the purpose by intimidation, menaces, threats and opprobious words of preventing the miners of the plaintiff from working. It further restrains the defendants from inducing or compelling any employe or miner to quit work. A hearing was fixed for August 16. The injunction is regarded as the most sweeping yet issued. President Dolan expressed surprise when informed that it had been granted, and added:

"It will make no difference to us. We will not break camp, and will go right along as usual until the matter is tested in the courts. We will stay there regardless of every judge in Allegheny county, and if they try to enforce the injunction they will have to build more jails to accommodate the men."

TRYING THE INJUNCTION.

New York and Cleveland Gas Coal Co.'s Case.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 16.—The hearing in the equity case of the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal Company against the United Mine Workers of America was called at 10 o'clock this morning in common pleas court No. 1 before Judges Stowe and Collier. The court room was crowded an hour before court opened. The plaintiffs were represented by Attorneys Schoyer, Kaufman and Hall, while William J. Brennan appeared for the defendants.

The affidavit in which the preliminary injunction was issued was made by William P. De Armitt, president of the New York and Cleveland Company, and set forth that plaintiff's employes were under contracts; that the terms were mutually satisfactory and that both parties were ready and willing to fulfill their respective duties under it; but the strikers, by marching, encamping and other methods prevented many of the men from carrying out their part of the agreement. It also recited the company's contracts to supply coal, at points in the United States outside of Pennsylvania and abroad, and to supply the Pittsburg pumping station with coal, which demands a daily supply in order to keep up the service of water in the city of Pittsburg. The officers of the United Mine Workers of America were named in the bill and the purposes of the organization are set forth, together with a history of the strike.

When court opened, Mr. Schoyer, on behalf of the plaintiff company, filed a motion to make the preliminary injunction permanent, and Mr. Brennan made a counter motion to dissolve it.

Judge Stowe decided both motions out of order, and President De Armit was called to the stand. His testimony did not materially differ from the affidavits filed when the preliminary injunction was secured.

Supt. Thomas De Armit, the next witness, described the marches of the strikers and their camps, and said that 200 or 300 of their men had told him they were fearful of personal injur- or destruction of their property if they went to work.

Supt. Fisher, of the Sandy Creek mine, testified that he had been notified to stay in the house or he would be "done up," and that he had been shot at. The witness refused to give the name of his informant, and Judge Stowe said that anything that would tend to show that life or property was endangered was competent. They were here, he said, to find out if the conduct of the strikers was such as to cause the injunction to be continued.

President Dolan was next called for cross-examination, and during his testimony he said that the strike was made at the request of several operators. Among the number were James Shields, Capt. J. J. Stoeffler and Capt. Blythe. These operators, he said, told him that De Armit was ruining the trade, and the only thing that would save the suffering miners from starving was a strike. No one had told him to get De Armit's men out, but it was hoped to make the strike general.

The hearing will continue until 3 o'clock.

STRIKERS HAPPY.

Splendid News Received From Kanawha and New River Mines.

Columbus, O., Aug. 16.—Information was received at the miners' headquarters this morning that 25 mines had closed down in the Kanawha and New River valleys in West Virginia, as follows: Winifrede, North Coalburg, Kanawha, Belmont, Crown Lee, Chesapeake, Crescent, Edgewater, Eagle, Diamond, St. Clair, Cannelton, Cedar Grove, Monarch, Peabody, Teel, Splint, Big Mountain, Staunton, Kelly Creek, Ford Hill, Black Cat, Peerless, Bigmy or Great Kanawha.

The miners who were instrumental in having these mines closed down, have issued a proclamation asking the men in other mines to come out. Secretary Pearce received a telegram from President Ratchford to the effect that the meeting at McKeesport, Pa., was a great success, and that he would not be home until Tuesday.

ANOTHER INJUNCTION.

Forbids Strikers Invading Fayette County, West Virginia.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Aug. 16.—Judge Jackson Saturday night granted injunctions in several cases against Fred Ritcher et al., leaders of the mining strike in Fayette county.

The order is in every respect identical with the one issued against Debs and the strike leaders in the Fairmont region on July 28, and it in every way prohibits the defendants from trespassing upon the property of each of the plaintiffs or interfering in any way whatsoever with either property, business or miners, either by the retrespassing or by using efforts to induce the men to quit work.

ASKING FOR HELP.

Piteous Appeals to Strike Headquarters for Food.

Pittsburg, Aug. 12.—The headquarters of the district officials of the United Mine Workers in this city are still besieged with piteous appeals for aid from the starving women and children and the striking miners. The miners say more than $1,000 worth of provisions have been distributed during the last two days, and the requests for help are away in excess of the means to respond. Around the Bunola mine and along the Wheeling division of the B. & O. railroad the suffering seems to be worst. In many homes there seems to be nothing but dry bread to eat and in some cases not even this.

FOOD CONTRIBUTED.

All Sections of the Union Coming to the Rescue.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 12.—Firms from all sections of the Union are coming to the rescue of the strikers.

A cereal company, at Akron, O., sent a dispatch offering to donate two tons of corn meal, agreeing to ship it whenever directed. The offer was thankfully accepted, and the corn meal will be distributed among the homes of the miners in need.

The Fishermen's Protective association, of Astoria, Ogn., offered to send East 100 cases of canned salmon to the miners, which was also accepted. The salmon were started East by fast freight.

ASKING AID.

Governor Bushnell Issues Proclamation on Behalf of Miners.

Columbus, O., Aug. 12.—Gov. Bushnell issued a proclamation to the people of the state to-day, calling attention to the fact that many miners are destitute, and calling upon them for aid for these people. State Mine Inspector Hazletine is made general custodian of contributions.

Eight Hundred More Strikers.

Matewan, W. Va., Aug. 16.—Eight hundred miners at Simmons' Creek and Logan joined the strikers this morning. Fifteen hundred men are now out in the Norfolk & Western district.

KLONDIKE CLOSED.

Storms Make Overland Routes to the Yukon Impossible.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 12.—Grim winter, with its terrific storms has already seized Alaska and the Northwest territory in its grip, and the gold seekers trying to reach the Eldorado of the Yukon by the overland route have seen their hopes of fortune swept away in the maelstrom that has obliterated the trails over the mountains and turned the lakes into tempestuous and impassable seas.

By the storm that drove the steamship Mexico to the bottom the 5,000 miners en route for the Klondyke treasure fields have been hopelessly stuck in the Skagaway Pass between Skagaway and Lake Tagish. Unprotected from the extreme hardships of an arctic storm, the amateur miners have been exposed to fearful blasts and chilling rains in a pass that will now mean death for many of them.

Food supplies have been destroyed, trails have been swept away by the heavy rains, and the way to the field of gold is closed to the fortune hunters until the spring.

Those who have been trapped in the Skagaway Pass by the storm will be condemned to live many months on the rough face of the mountain, unless they give up the race for wealth and fight their way over terrible obstacles back to Dyea. Their horses have died like sheep. The way is cut off before and behind. The trail back to Dyea and Juneau will have to be cut in the face of severe storms and terrible winds. Those who determine not to return will have to face the fierce rigors of an arctic winter hundreds of miles from the point they wished to reach.

Hundreds of Deaths Predicted.

The storm that has swept over the Northwest is said to be but the presage of an exceedingly severe winter, and it is predicted that the frozen bodies of many of the miners will lie miles from the promised land before new trails can be opened.

Details of the sufferings of the gold seekers who have taken the overland route are harrowing. At the foot of the Dyea and Skagaway passes tons of food supplies have been blocked for lack of horses and Indians to carry them to the lakes which lead to the Klondyke. Some of the miners have sold their outfits and are returning to civilization and warmth before the arctic winter sets in. Others, and these are said to be the least experienced, are pressing forward with but half their supplies, so intense is the fever which is sending them to the Klondyke. It is these men, and they are numbered by the thousands, who have been caught in the terrific storm which wrecked the Mexico.

How many have already lost their lives is not known. The overland route to the Klondyke will be strewn with corpses, according to the old miners who have already tried the rigors of the Alaskan climate. Even those who have been able to get through the passes to the lakes can not proceed farther. The lakes have been swollen to such an extent and the rapids have been rendered so dangerous that it has been found impossible to push forward.

A. G. McNab, an old prospector, returned here on the City of Topeka. He had little to say, but that little was decidedly impressive.

"There is no use trying to get over those passes this winter," he said. "I have been there and looked the ground over and came back." He is only one of many now returning.

Hundreds of the Gold Seekers Stalled for the Winter.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 12.—The blockade of Klondyke at Dyea and Skagaway will lead to much suffering this winter. Captain Amex, who was the pilot of the steamer Islander, which has just returned from the North, says that things are in very bad shape. Affairs could not be much worse. Two thousand people are camped along the rocky shore, with but few horses or pack animals at hand, and they have practically no chance of getting over the pass.

One of the United States commissioners, by using his official influence and paying $400 in coin, managed to get the Indians to pack his outfit over the Chilcoot Pass to the lakes. Of others who went to Puget Sound without horses, not one in 50 will get across the mountains this winter.

Seven Seattle men who went up in the Islander returned on her to Victoria, utterly disgusted with the prospect and will remain at home till spring, when they expect to make another start. Those who have horses and boats stand a fairly good chance of getting through, but the start must be made before winter comes on.

Canada Abandons the Plan to Levy on Yukon Miners.

Ottawa, Ont., Aug. 12.—The Canadian government has abandoned its scheme to compel miners going into the Klondyke diggings to pay a royalty of from 10 to 15 per cent upon all gold mined by them.

The announcement that such an attempt would be made called forth vehement protests from the politicians and business men of the Northwest and Pacific coast, who realized that under existing conditions such a policy could only lead to serious trouble and probably bloodshed.

The storekeepers of British Columbia are too busy just now compelling prospectors to buy in British territory or pay duty to consent to any policy which would cause further irritation.

FEARS OF FAMINE.

Many Are Turning Back and Will Wait for Spring.

Dyea, Alaska, Aug. 4, via Seattle, Wash., Aug. 11.—The British steamers Islander and Gees have arrived with about 500 prospectors, which increases the number of the Dyea and Skaguay trails to fully 1,500. Later reports have come in to the effect that the Skaguay route is open to the lakes and that it is about 45 miles long. It is a zig-zag course over the mountains, and the road is very soft. There are 200 or 300 head of horses in the trail, and they will soon tramp down the road, which is in a deplorable condition. The probability of one man in ten reaching the Klondyke is remote. Old Alaska prospectors, some of whom have wintered in the Yukon and know what to expect, are becoming frightened and are turning back. Not that they fear the hardships, but that they are appreciative of famine on account of so many men rushing headlong to the mines without enough provisions to last them two months.

The best evidence that those upon the ground regard the situation with more or less alarm is the fact that many are paying 20 cents per pound to have freight packed across Dyea Pass. This is an increase of 3 cents per pound since the sailing of the Alki at which time 16 and 17 cents were charged. Twenty cents is the regular rate over the Dyea or Chicoo Pass route. This increase and exorbitant charge is due to a scarcity of horses. Without pack animals of some description it appears to be next to impossible at this season to get freight and outfits across the divide.

PERFECTED AT LAST.

Telautograph to Be Placed in Active Use.

New York, Aug. 13.—Since the invention of the telephone and its adoption for general use, no rival has entered the field for years.

Now the rival is here at last, backed by practically unlimited capital.

It is called the "telautograph," and renders possible the transmission of handwriting, in fac-simile, by wire with the same facility that the voice is carried by the telephone.

The instrument is now almost ready for the market and is in the hands of the Gray National Telautograph Company; with General T. M. Logan, president; John W. Johnston, general manager, and W. H. Eckert, general superintendent.

General Superintendent Eckert is the brother of President Eckert, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and was the first man in the country to establish and direct the Bell telephone. He is fully conversant with all the possibilities inherent in the new instrument. He and the other officials of the company are now establishing companies and the new system in adjacent small towns and cities to demonstrate the possibilities of the telautograph before bringing it into New York City. In this manner they expect to demonstrate the facts.

Not only is it possible to transmit handwriting by this wonderful instrument, but outline sketches of faces, figures or buildings can be accurately recorded on the receiving tablet.

On of the chief uses of the instrument will be found in the transmission of messages where absolute accuracy is important, such as the sending of train orders or communications between the different departments of large mercantile or manufacturing establishments. Physicians, who will not telephone or telegraph prescriptions for fear that a slight error might result in the loss of life, will be able to transmit prescriptions without fear of their going astray as regards ingredients.

Exchanges will be established similar to those in use by the telephone companies, at no extra cost to the subscriber. No attendant is needed to look after the receiving instrument, and other defects of telephone and telegraphic systems are overcome.

NEW MOTIVE POWER.

Liquefied Air May Supersede Steam and Electricity.

New York, Aug. 16.—Charles E. Tripler, who lives at 40 West Seventy-seventh street, asserts that he has an invention by which air may be easily liquefied. This invention, if the hopes it justly arouses are realized, will mean as much to the world as the invention of the steam engine in all its phases. It will mean inexhaustible and enormous power, inexpensive, instantly obtainable on sea or land or in the air, and easily applied. There are just two points:

1. Mr. Tripler has proved beyond dispute that the liquefying of air is not a difficult or expensive process.

2. Mr. Tripler has proved to his own satisfaction, and to the satisfaction of those who have examined and tested his machines, that this process is not only not expensive, but practically inexpensive, and that it can be carried on indefinitely by a cheap and simple machine to utilize the free forces of nature.

Hitherto the problem of getting the liquid air has been too much for the inventors. If a man could discover a process of liquefying air at a cost less than or no greater than the cost of coal he would make a fortune so big that Astor would seem a beggar beside him.

That is what Charles E. Tripler asserts he has done. He says that the experimental stage has passed, that his machine for liquefying air at almost no cost is finished and that he will exhibit it publicly in a few weeks.

FOREIGN NEWS.

WEYLER TO RESIGN.

Dire Failure of His Attempt to Pacify Cuba.

New York, Aug. 14.—A special to the Herald from Havana says:

I have learned on what seems to be the best authority that Captain General Weyler has sent his resignation to Madrid. This report is generally believed to be true.

There is no doubt that the resignation of General Weyler is due to the assassin-

GENERAL WEYLER.

ation of Senor Canovas del Castillo, the premier of Spain, through whose personal wishes Captain General Weyler was retained in Cuba.

The report of General Weyler's resignation is a cause for satisfaction among Cuban sympathizers and reconcentrados, who, in the advent of another chief of the loyal Spanish troops in Cuba, see only relief from the "policy of conciliation" which has resulted in such suffering to the pacifices of Cuba.

Recent Spanish reverses in Cuba and complications that have arisen in the home government since the assassination of Senor Canovas del Castillo have undoubtedly brought about the resignation of Captain General Weyler, commander-in-chief of the island, who was appointed to that position January 19, 1896, two days after the Spanish cabinet had recalled Captain General Campos.

Senor Don Valeriano y Weyler Nicolau is, and for a long time has been, one of the most conspicuous figures in Spanish military history. His life has been one of great military triumphs until he attempted the pacification of Cuba, 18 months ago, since when failure has been his fate.

Step by step Weyler has climbed the ladder of rank, beginning as a boyish captain, reaching the position of commander-in-chief, and wearing a coat that bears upon it every cross and every badge of military honor known in Spain, save those reserved for royalty. With all this, which has been brought about by a career that has met the approval of those above him in rank, he has, by reason of his methods, and through a merciless determination that has brought most sanguinary results, been called "the butcher." His methods have been Spanish, and are consistent with Spanish history.

SPANIARDS DEFEATED.

And Forced to Retreat Before Insurgent Army.

Key West, Fla., Aug. 13.—An important engagement took place near Cardenas, Matanzas province. The Spaniards were badly defeated with very heavy loss.

General Moline was killed. The fight lasted several hours and General Weyler was obliged to retreat from Aguacate to Jaruco. The insurgents are waiting outside of the town to see if they can attack his forces there. The people of Havana fear the danger of the situation of General Weyler.

Nearly all the Cuban forces of Havana province are concentrated near Jaruco. The town of Rosalia was attacked. The insurgents entered the town without resistance finding many Spanish soldiers drunk in the streets and most of the officers at a ball. One captain was killed, three lieutenants and thirty soldiers. Twenty-five guerillas who came to the aid of the Spaniards were macheted. After ransacking the town it was burned and only three houses were left.

Weyler has ordered all stores at Esperanza not to sell goods but to close their doors. The people are dying of hunger, and the sick cannot buy drugs. Weyler wants them punished because the insurgents entered the town and the people made no resistance.

The Spanish Daily Diario De La Marina again attacks the American press in an insulting manner, stating that Senator Morgan's defense of Cuba looks as if he were paid by the junta to work for that cause.

WEYLER'S RETREAT.

He is Chased Into Havana by the Insurgents.

New York, Aug. 16.—A dispatch to the Herald from Havana says: Captain General Weyler's summer campaign came to an inglorious end last Wednesday, when he returned to this city with rebels firing on his rear guard all the way from Aguacate to Havana. The captain general made a public entry into the capital, but his reception was chilly. General Weyler cabled his resignation to Madrid on Thursday. Last night I saw a copy of the reply he received. He was told to remain in Cuba as long as the ministry holds power. The suspense here is intense, but no excitement appears on the surface.

General Weyler refuses to discuss the situation with anyone. The captain general who succeeds General Weyler will have a hard task. The splendid force of 500,000 men Spain placed in General Weyler's hands is, if the truth be told, now only a tattered remnant. A tropical sun has proved as disastrous as battles. The soldiers have not received their pay for months. They are weak from illness and poor feeding; they are badly clothed, and have no shoes. Their credit is all but exhausted, and trades people will only furnish supplies under actual force.

In short the Spanish army in Cuba is not inclined and not in position to take the offensive.

POOR OLD SPAIN!

The Philippine Insurgents Harass the Spanish.

San Francisco, Aug. 12.—The aspect of the war in the Philippines has changed, according to a correspondent of the Japan Advocate. In a letter from Balkakan, July 3, he reports that the revolutionists are following the Cubans' tactics, surprising convoys and detachments of Spanish troops, and up to date have been generally successful in capturing a large number of Remington and Mauser rifles and ammunition at a trifling cost of lives, comparatively.

TIME LIMIT SET.

President McKinley Gives Spain Till January 1.

Havana, Aug. 12.—Despite the diplomatic denial of Foreign Secretary Tetuan, private Madrid dispatches reaching Havana, to-day virtually confirm the report that President McKinley and Secretary Sherman have given Spain until January 1 next to end the war in Cuba. In semi-official circles here it is whispered that the 40,000 additional recruits demanded by Weyler from Spain by October will probably not be embarked, owing to an intimation from Washington mildly protesting against the massing of further European forces in the Antilles.

An order from Weyler fining the newspaper La Region, the organ of the Matanzas Conservatives has called forth an indignant protest. Weyler's act was prompted, it is said, by the paper's recent publication of a copy of his private instructions to field commanders to spare no one found beyond the Spanish lines, even though unarmed, and to raid and destroy all the insurgent hospitals within their respective zones.

Weyler, in recent personal dispatches to the minister of war, is said to have demanded the suppression of El Heroldo, El Imparcial, and other Madrid newspapers which have been guilty of having sharply criticised his policy of extermination here.

Lieutenant General the Marquis de Ahumada, second in military command to Weyler, and acting governor general, who has been ill at the palace for several days has renewed his previous application for leave to recuperate in Spain.

CANOVAS'S DEATH

Has Greatly Complicated Politics in Spain.

New York Aug. 11.—A special to the Journal from Madrid says:

What will be the effect of the assassination of Premier Canovas del Castillo no one dares at this time predict. The question of the hour is, Who is to be his successor? Upon the selection of a man to take the place of Canovas depends the fate of the royal family and of Cuba.

At San Sebastian the Queen Regent is in constant consultation with her advisers. Whether with the death of the premier, the Canovas ministry must fall, is still a carefully guarded state secret.

Rumor has it that only during the official nine days of mourning will Don Marcelo de Azcarraga remain at the head of the cabinet. To this rumor adds that his retirement will be followed by a new ministry.

For the head of this the name of Senor Pidal president of the Chamber of Deputies, is suggested. This, however, is looked upon as only another temporary arrangement.

Many signs point to Sagasta as the

GEN. DON MARCOLO DE AZCARRAGA.
Spanish Premier ad Interim.

man of the hour. But he will not be called to the premiership if the Queen Regent can find any other solution of the serious problem that she is now facing.

The return of Sagasta would mean the almost certain loss of Cuba. Weyler would be forced to give way to Martinez Campos, and this encouragement to the insurgents would bring the end of the war close at hand.

Sagasta is waiting. He has placed himself at the disposal of the government, and has decided to put off his contemplated visit to this city. Senor Silvela, the Dissident Conservative leader, has also tendered his services to the government.

Already the Republicans are at work. Hasty consultations of their leaders have been held all day, and these men express great confidence that the time to turn Spain from monarchy has arrived.

The Carlists, too, are busily engaged in making all possible preparations for the success of their movement.

ANGIOLILLO CONDEMNED.

Sentence of Death Passed by Court Martial.

Madrid, Aug. 16.—Michel Angiolillo, the anarchist assassin of Premier Canovas del Castillo, was tried by court martial yesterday at Vergara, was found guilty and sentenced to death.

The trial lasted two hours. The prosecution demanding that the extreme penalty be inflicted upon the assassin.

When called upon to plead or to speak in mitigation of punishment, the accused began a rambling statement, but was not allowed to proceed.

Upon hearing the sentence Angiolillo turned deathly pale and had to be assisted from the court room.

Angiolillo will be garroted within the prison.

PRINCE HENRI WOUNDED

In His Duel With the Count of Turin.

Paris, Aug. 16.—The Count of Turin and Prince Henri of Orleans fought a duel with swords at 5 o'clock yesterday morning in the Bois de Marechaux at Vancresson. M. Leontieff acted as umpire. The fighting was most determined and lasted twenty-six minutes. There were five engagements, of which two were at close quarters. Prince Henri received two wounds, in the right shoulder and the right side of the abdomen. The Count of Turin was wounded in the right hand. Prince Henri was taken to the residence of the Duc de Chartres and received medical attention.

The condition of Prince Henri of Orleans is as satisfactory as could be expected. The doctors, after consultation, have expressed the opinion that no important organ was touched but absolute rest is necessary for recovery. Owing to rumors at Naples and elsewhere the public had not expected the duel to come off. It was therefore private. The seconds, however, have issued a report of the circumstances leading up to the duel, and the course of the duel itself.

Both men maintained hot fighting at every stage of the encounter. When the count's hand was scratched he ridiculed the wound, and tried to stop the medical examination but the doctors insisted. Toward the end of the fourth assault the onlookers became anxious, as the opponents, becoming fatigued, fought with looser guards and more reckless thrusts. In the fifth assault the prince, after feeling his way, began an impetuous attack, the count defending desperately and slowly retiring. It seemed that the rounds which had gone before had only served to excite the fire of the combatants. Suddenly the prince made a wild lunge, which the count barely parried. The latter immediately returned the thrust and the prince, slightly overbalancing himself, swung back to avoid the blow, and received the point of his adversary's sword in the abdomen.

Of Course He Will Get Well.

Paris, Aug. 16.—12.30 p. m.—Prince Henri of Orleans, who was wounded in the lower part of the right side of the abdomen yesterday morning in a duel fought with the Count of Turin, nephew of the King of Italy, passed a quiet night. His condition is now considered by his physicians to be satisfactory.

Gen. Albertone, the Italian officer who had challenged Prince Henri, but who gave way to the Count of Turin, has withdrawn his challenge.

WAR IN INDIA.

ONE OF THE FRONTIER FORTS.

Simla, Aug. 17.—A reconnaissance in the Swat valley has discovered the enemy to be entrenched in the hills between Jalala and Landaki, confirming the reports of the gathering in force of the upper Swatis, Bonerwals and Handustini fanatics. It is expected that Gen. Blood the British commander, will order a prompt attack upon the enemy's position.

Later: General Blood brought his filed guns into action against the stone entrenchments of the enemy demolishing these works, whereupon the insurgent tribesmen fled.

BIMETALLISM NOT POSSIBLE.

London Times Makes Fun of the American Commission.

London, Aug. 17.—The Times publishes a two column special article reviewing the effects of closing the Indian mints, in connection with the visit of the American bimetallic commission. It says:

"The closing saved the Indian government from the losses incident to a heavy fall in exchange and consequently from a disastrous increase in the burden of its gold obligations. It is undoubtedly true that it also helped to keep down the gold value of silver bullion, but may not the question be raised whether the low price of silver is necessarily disastrous to India which purchases it so largely? Since 1893 India has been the only real wholesale customer for silver. Other customers are of the retail order.

"The delicate adjustment relative to prices of gold and silver formerly existing has been rudely shattered by recent events. Since 1893 the rupee has risen and silver has fallen. The fact is, the forces now acting upon the price of silver have become too tremendous to be dominated by such delicate influences as preceded the defeat of Bryan's silver party and Japan's adoption of the gold standard. These events have proved causes too potent to be withstood."

Closing of Mints Justified.

The article, in conclusion, says: "The closing of the mints was justified, and all that is now needed to bring a great experiment to a successful ending is a little

WASHINGTON.

INDUSTRIAL BOOM.

Factories Resuming Operations in Every City.

Washington, Aug. 12.—To-day's Washington Star publishes a statement showing the improved business conditions in Ohio which calls attention to the fact that a single establishment at Cleveland has recently put 3,500 men at work and adds:

At Ashland, which has the largest pump and haying tool works in the state, orders have increased largely and every mill and factory is running on full time with orders ahead. At Napoleon the woolen mills which were closed have resumed work and another important manufacturing establishment which has been running on half time is again running on full time. At Lorain the Cleveland Shipbuilding Company has increaced its capital stock to $1,000,000 and is erecting a new establishment which will employ from 800 to 1,000 men as soon as it is completed, while all the old manufacturing establishments are running on full time. The steel plant, which was running on half time a year ago, is now running with 1,800 men on full time.

At Marion the mills are crowded with orders and running on full time and there has been an advance in miners' wages. At Zanesville the foundries which closed for the summer vacation on July 1st, have been compelled to reopen to keep up with the orders although they had a heavy stock on hand when they entered upon their usual summer vacation.

At Dayton the number of hands employed in the manufactories is reported as nearly or quite double that of a year ago, some of the factories running night and day and others over time.

At Shelby an electric lamp manufacturing establishment is running double time. The plow works which had been closed have started up. The Steel Tube Company is erecting a new mill and will increase its working force as soon as it can be put in operation.

At Steubenville the glass works, which have been idle for several years, are reopening and the steel works just below that place are enlarging their plant and preparing to increase their force of men; the amount of money paid in wages is now nearly double that of a year ago.

At Galion the large carriage wheel and carriage factories are running 13 hours a day and are behind with their orders, and a brick and tile machinery factory recently increased the wages of its employes from 10 to 15 per cent all around.

At Columbus Grove the agricultural implement works have increased their forces and are full of orders with good prices.

At Columbus the great Columbus Buggy Company has resumed operations after more than a year of idleness and many other establishments report an increase in employes.

At Mansfield the great stove works has increased its working time one-third over last year, and increased its force of men 25 per cent over last year while the manufacturers of agricultural machinery report a large increase in orders and prospects for steady work as against the shut down of last year.

At Youngstown the manufacturing establishments are generally running on full time and the working force is generally employed.

At East Liverpool, the great pottery town, the summer trade in crockery is better than in years, and has compelled an unusually brief summer shut down, while the glass works are also unusually busy.

At Ravenna there is an increase in the number of men employed in the factories and a better trade reported.

At Kent a large manufacturing establishment which has been moved from Patterson, N. J., to that place will begin operations soon.

IMMIGRATION FIGURES.

Foreigners Not Flocking Over Just Now.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The tide of immigration is at the lowest point since the general government assumed jurisdiction of the subject in 1882. The number of arrivals from all countries, according to treasury statistics during the last fiscal year was 230,832, a decrease as compared with the previous year, of 112,435. The lightest immigration of any previous year was in 1895, when the number from all countries was 279,948. The year of the heaviest immigration was the first of the period beginning with 1882 when arrivals numbered 788,992. During the entire period of federal supervision, 7,432,016 have entered the United States. The arrivals of Russian Jews for the past year numbered 22,754, as against 45,137 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896. Italy furnished the greatest number of emigrants, 54,431, a decrease of 8,629 from last year. Since 1882 there has been a large and steady decrease in German immigration. In 1882, 250,000 entered the United States from that country, while in 1896 only 22,533 arrived.

NOMINATIONS.

Several Made Public While the President is On Vacation.

Washington, Aug. 11.—The President has designated Frank A. Vanderlip, assistant secretary of the Treasury, to perform the duties of register and assistant register of the Treasury during the absence of the register and assistant register.

The following appointments have been made: Felix A. Reeve, of Tennessee, assistant solicitor of the Treasury, August 5. Benjamin Cheswell, second lieutenant in the revenue cutter service, August 4. Bernard H. Camden, second lieutenant in the revenue cutter service, August 4. Harry G. Hamlet, second lieutenant in the revenue cutter service, August 4. Frederick C. Billard, second lieutenant in the revenue cutter service, August 4.

The Russian Mission.

Washington, Aug. 12.—Mr. Ethan Allen Hitchcock, of St. Louis, has accepted President McKinley's proffer of the Russian mission, and is now arranging his Petersburg.

Civil Service Order.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The secretary of the treasury has issued a circular providing for the enforcement of the provisions of executive order of July 27, 1897, as to removals from classified service. It provides that no removal shall be made from any position subject to competitive examination except for just cause, and upon written charges filed with the head of the department or other appointing officer, and of which the accused shall have full notice and an opportunity to make defense. The number of employes in the classified service of the treasury department is 11,564.

Civil Service Examinations.

Washington, Aug. 13.—The civil service commission has issued a circular to the examining boards of the sixty-three internal revenue districts announcing that examinations for deputy collectors, clerks, stock keepers, guagers, storekeepers-guagers and messengers will be held in each district on September 18, to be conducted the next week day if all applicants cannot be examined in one day.

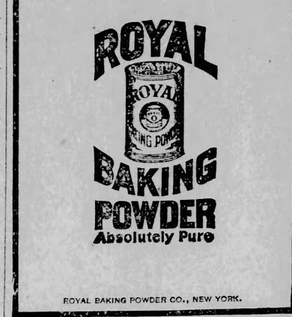
Sugar Importations.

Washington, Aug. 11.—The treasury statement of the imports of sugar shows that the July importations at the six principal ports, Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco, aggregated 178,004,060 pounds, valued at $4,152,245. Of this amount 43,009,113 pounds, valued at $1,242,363 came in free under reciprocity treaty with Hawaii.

Poison for Snake Bites.

Washington, Aug. 13.—A practical application of the homeopathic principle of like cures like is described by Consul Germain at Zurich, Switzerland, in a report to the state department transmitting treaties upon snake bites. In brief it shows that the bile of poisonous serpents like cobra adder and rattlesnakes is a powerful antidote for the venom of like snakes.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

DISCRIMINATING DUTY.

Question Involving Goods First Landed in Canada.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Attorney General McKenna and Solicitor-General Richards are making a careful study of the questions involved in the construction of section 22 of the new tariff act, and it is expected that an opinion covering the subject will be sent to Secretary Gage early in the coming week. The main question at issue is whether teas and other goods shipped from China and Japan by vessel to Vancouver, B. C., and thence by rail in bond to the United States are subject to the ten per cent discriminating duty imposed by section 22. It is stated at the treasury department that a very large proportion of the teas and other products of China and Japan are so shipped to the New England and other eastern cities at a less rate than is charged by way of American lines of railroad from San Francisco.

Eastern exporters of these commodities therefore are said to be opposed to any construction of the act which would impose the additional ten per cent duty. The Boston & Maine Railroad Company have asked to be heard on the question of its final determination and the attorney general has concluded to give them a hearing next Saturday morning. Who will represent the company before the attorney general has not been determined but it is understood that either ex-Senator Edmunds or Former Assistant Secretary Hamlin will appear in their behalf. It is also probable that some of the American trans-Continental lines will be represented at the hearing, on the other side of the question.

JUSTICE FIELD.

He Has Passed the Record On the Supreme Bench.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Associate Justice Stephen J. Field to-day passes the point of longest service on the supreme bench of the United States. Justice John Marshall, "the father of the supreme court," and "godfather of the constitution," served from January 31, 1801, to July 6, 1835, or thirty-four years five months and five days. Justice Field's service began March 10, 1863, and to-day it reached thirty-four years five months and six days.

The supreme court is remarkable for the length of service of many of its justices. No fewer than eleven men have sat upon the bench more than a quarter of a century each.

Justice Field, though several months past 80, is not the oldest man that ever sat upon the bench. That honor belongs to Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, who was just 59 when he went upon the bench, and remained there twenty-eight years and six months, making him 87 years and six months old before death took him from his seat.

The fact that Justice Field is now on the eve of realizing his long hope will likely give rise to reports of his retirement from the bench. The justice still has a clear mind, but physically he is very feeble. He has refused steadily to say anything about his retirement, but it has been the general impression that he was only waiting to break the record of service and that then he would retire.

In this connection it is recalled that when Justice Swayne passed seventy years some one asked him why he did not retire from the supreme bench. "If I should retire," said he, "who would invite me to dinner?" This same consideration may occur to Justice Field, though he is too feeble to take any part in social life. Nevertheless he may appreciate that a retired justice is soon forgotten by the busy world.

NEW MEXICO.

PAN-AMERICAN STATES.

Likely to Be Called to Another Commercial Congress.

Washington, Aug. 14.—President McKinley is said to be in favor of another pan-American congress to meet in 1900. This subject is to be one of the first discussed immediately after the vacation period is over. It will come up in connection with negotiations on new commercial relations contemplated by the reciprocity feature of the Dingley tariff bill.

The administration purposes making a bold play for American trade in South and Central America, and that which cannot be accomplished under existing conditions will be sought after through the medium of another pan-American congress. Better means of transportation; better methods of banking and a better system of commercial ratings are requisites in the opinion of the administration officials for a safer and more satisfactory business intercourse between the United States and Latin-American countries.

The bureau of American Republics, under the direction of Joseph P. Smith, is doing all in its power to encourage pan-American trade relations. Director Smith, in speaking of the subject expressed the opinion that the questions just quoted will come before another international conference not later than 1900.

May Soon Be Admitted to Statehood.

Washington, Aug. 16.—At least one more state will probably be added to the American galaxy during the McKinley administration. The President is understood to look with favor upon the admission of New Mexico, and it is likely that she will be the next to join the union as a full-fledged commonwealth.

The citizens of the territories of New Mexico and Arizona, who have been for several years persistently knocking at the doors of congress for admission to the sisterhood of states, are reported to be more confident of success in the next congress than ever before.

More systematic machinery is already being set in motion and more potent influences brought to bear to obtain adequate consideration in congress for their demands, and the leaders of the respective movements believe that they can count upon enough votes in both houses of congress to secure the admission of the territories.

ALL WANT OFFICE.

Commission Flooded With Thousands of Documents.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The civil service commission is overwhelmed with papers of examinations for government offices, and the corps of examiners is working overtime to dispose of the constant accumulation. So far during this administration more people have been examined by the commissions throughout the country, than in any previous year, largely the result of anticipated changes in the rules because of the change of administration. Over 14,700 papers are now on file pending action covering all kinds of examinations. Probably 4,000 of these are for positions in postoffices. About 3,500 were filed by candidates for the customs service and 1,500 for the internal service, while 5,000 of the papers belong to the last spring examinations conducted by the commissions. In addition to these, examinations have just been held in 53 of the largest postoffices in the country, which are expected to increase the number of cases by not less than 5,000. Chief Examiner Severn says all this immense increase has been developed without material increase in the clerical force of the commission, except for temporary details. Since March there has been almost treble the amount of business as compared with similar periods in the past.

SPEAKER REED

Throws Light Upon the Late Session of Congress.

Washington, Aug. 4.—It has been no secret that Speaker Reed did not originally favor the currency commission. It was only after some persuasion and argument that he would agree to allow the measure to come before the House, or, rather, acquiesce in the President's purpose of submitting a message on that subject.

In the forthcoming number of the Illustrated American Mr. Reed speaks his mind clearly upon the purpose of the extra session, and also foreshadows a policy of inaction on currency during the remaining sessions of this Congress. In speaking of the extra session just closed he says:

"But we were confronted by one very simple fact: We might discuss all the questions of the hour, but we could progress not one step. Legislation was impossible. The Houses were radically opposed. Nobody can name a single public question on which they were or are in accord. Business, therefore, would be impossible, and nothing could come of it, except a stirring up of the country with crude propositions which, as they could not become law, would be undertaken with no proper sense of responsibility, and discussed solely on an academic and political basis. What the country wanted was the tariff and a rest."

If the speaker had been asked to state his reason for reappointing Joseph H. Walker as chairman of the banking and currency commission he could not have given it more accurately than in this quotation. The simple fact is that no change in the existing currency system is thought possible, or even seriously contemplated during the present Congress.

GONE TO HONOLULU.

The Gunboat Bennington Off for Hawaiian Islands.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The gunboat Bennington, with the stars and stripes at her topmast, left the harbor of San Diego, Cal., Saturday for Honolulu.

She goes ostensibly to survey Pearl Harbor, which is nominally the property of the United States, but her real mission is to protect the interests of this government and assist in maintaining the status quo at Honolulu.

The departure of the Bennington was reported to the navy department this afternoon and the news was received with satisfaction.

Instructions to have the Bennington sail for Hawaii were mailed to the commanding officer the latter part of July. It was originally intended that she should sail August 5, but delay in adjusting her detail of officers prevented.

She carries no new instructions to Admiral Miller. The President when Admiral Miller was in Washington, thoroughly discussed the Hawaiian-Japanese question with him, and the course then laid down for the naval commander to pursue provided for all contingencies.

The Bennington on reaching Honolulu will first report to Admiral Miller and then proceed to Pearl Harbor, where she will commence the survey required by Congress. Upon the completion of this work the vessel will return to Honolulu and cast anchor beside the American cruiser stationed there.

When the Bennington arrives in Hawaiian waters the Marion will hoist her homeward bound pennant and start for San Francisco, where she is to undergo repairs. A week or so after the departure of the Marion the Philadelphia, it is expected, will also start for the United States, and her place at Honolulu will be taken by the battleship Oregon.

OUR COLLEGES.

Statistics Showing Number of Students and Schools.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The report of the United States commissioner of education, Dr. Wm. T. Harris, for the year ended July 1, 1896, has just been completed. It brings the educational progress of the country up to that date, and embraces the latest statistics the bureau had gathered. The report shows a total enrollment in that year in the schools and colleges, both public and private, of 15,997,197 pupils. This was an increase of 308,575. The number in public institutions was 14,465,371, and in private institutions, 1,531,826. In addition to all these, there were 418,000 pupils in the various special schools and institutions, including business colleges, music conservatories, Indian and reform schools, making the grand total enrollment for the whole country, 16,415,197. The report says the 178 schools for secondary and higher education of the colored race had slightly over 40,000 students enrolled, an increase of over 3,000 for the year. Then schools increased by 16 in number, mostly high schools. There were 25,002 pupils in the elementary grades, 13,563 in the secondary grades, and 1,455 in the collegiate departments. There were 4,672 colored students studying for teachers. Industrial training is a prominent feature in nearly all of these schools.

WARNING TO GOLD-SEEKERS.

Secretary Bliss Takes Cognizance of the Mad Rush.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Secretary Bliss has taken cognizance of the rush to the Klondyke gold fields and Alaska and has issued the following warning to the general public:

"To Whom It May Concern:—In view of the information received at this department that 3,000 persons with 2,000 tons of baggage and freight are now waiting at the entrance to White Pass, in Alaska, for an opportunity to cross the mountains to the Yukon river, and that many more are preparing to join them, I deem it proper to call the attention of all who contemplate the trip to the exposure, privation, suffering and danger incident thereto at this advanced period of the season, even if they could succeed in crossing the mountains. To reach Dawson City, when over the pass, 700 miles of difficult navigation on the Yukon river without adequate means of transportation, will still be before them, and it is doubtful if the journey can be completed before the river is closed by ice.

"I am moved to draw public notice to these conditions by the gravity of the possible consequences to people detained in the mountainous wilderness during five or six months of an arctic winter, where no relief can reach them, however great the need.

"C. N. BLISS,
"Secretary of the Interior."

SHARP COUNTERFEITER.

He is Making $2 Silver Certificates Over Into Passable Fives.

Washington, Aug. 15.—An artist in note raising is giving the secret service people no end of worry. Several specimens of his work have been received at the treasury department, and they show him to be an expert. So far his operations have been confined to $2 silver certificates, in which the "2" has been changed to "5."

The vignettes of Fulton and Morse were left unchanged and a bank clerk would recognize the difference at a glance, as the $5 notes bear engravings of Grant and Sheridan.

Two of the raised certificates were received at the treasury in New York and the fraud was detected immediately. They came from reputable persons who had received them in the ordinary course of business.

NO USE TO START.

Can Not Get to Klondike This Winter.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 16.—James Sheakley, for a decade a resident of Alaska, for four years of which he was the chief executive of the territory, having resigned the governorship on July 15th, last, in order to make way for President McKinley's appointee, Governor Brady, says it is simply suicidal for men to attempt to reach Dawson City this year by either the White or Chilcoot passes, and that the chances are little or no better for them to arrive at their destination by way of the lower Yukon.

"From now on," Mr. Sheakley said today, "you will see many discouraged men coming back by the returning boats. It is too late in the season to go into the Yukon gold fields by way of either pass and it is no safer to try the lower Yukon route at this late day.

"There is lots of gold on the Yukon," Governor Sheakley continued, "but men should not lose their heads in their efforts to get it. I think a mistake is being made by so many rushing to the Klondike, Miller, Birch and the many other creeks around Circle City."

One Who Returned.

San Francisco, Aug. 16.—Henry Gable, an old and experienced miner, who was one of the first to join the rush to the Klondike, has returned, and tells a story calculated to deter others from going north in search of gold. There is hardly a trail in California, Arizona, Nevada or Montana with which Gable is not familiar. When the news of the gold strikes reached this country Gable left his mines in Arizona and started for the Klondike via Juneau and the Chilcoot pass. Now he is back, having sold his outfit which cost $235. He learned from many experienced mining men at Juneau and further up that it would be suicide to go before spring. He says:

"When we reached Barnum's Bay, which is a little way from Dyea, I gave up the idea. I left the vessel, intending to go to work in the Comet mines there and wait until next spring, when I intended to go into the Klondike. I found the mines deserted as the men would not work there at this time of the year owing to the water which fills the mines. The Alaskan mining men are positive that nearly all who are trying to get to Dawson City will be frozen up en route until spring and that their fate is uncertain. I will not answer for the lives of the tenderfeet who are now going."

Exempt From Duty.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 16.—Congressman James Hamilton Lewis wired President Graves, of the Chamber of Commerce, that the Canadian government has notified the treasury department that all mining outfits, together with supplies to the amount of $1,000, going into British Columbia will be exempt from duty. Mr. Lewis added that the result was obtained largely through the efforts of Washington congressional delegation and the people of Seattle.

SENATOR GEORGE DEAD.

End of the Mississippi Statesman After a Useful Life.

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 16.—The remains of the late Senator James Z. George, who died at Mississippi City, Saturday, reached this city yesterday, and were met at the depot by an immense crowd of citizens. A line of march was formed and the remains conveyed to the rotunda of the capitol. To-day the remains of the late senator were taken to Carrolton for burial beside his wife who died a few weeks ago.

Governor McLaurin says he has not thought of a successor. However, ex-Governor Lowry, Congressmen Allen, Sullivan and Williams, Judge Terrell and others are being mentioned.

James Z. George was born in Monroe county, Georgia, October 20, 1826. He was a member of the convention in Mississippi in 1861, which passed the ordinance of secession, and he voted for and signed that instrument. He was a captain in the Twentieth Regiment of Mississippi volunteers in the Confederate states army, afterward a brigadier general of state troops, and later colonel of the Fifth Regiment of Mississippi cavalry in the Confederate states army. He was chairman of the Democratic state executive committee of Mississippi in 1875-76. In 1879 he was appointed one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Mississippi and elected chief justice, but resigned his seat on the supreme bench in February, 1881, to take his seat in the Senate March 4 in that year, and was re-elected in 1886 and again in January, 1892. He was a member of the constitutional convention of the state of Mississippi, which was held in 1890, and framed the present constitution of the state. His term of service would have expired March 3, 1899.

STILL SLEEPING.

Doctors Unable to Arouse a Louisville Girl.

Louisville, Aug. 16.—The twelve-year-old daughter of Mrs. Thomas Dick, of No. 427 East Kentucky street, has been laying in a deep sleep at her home for 26 days. The case is a queer one and has puzzled a large number of physicians who have interested themselves in the case.

The child was taken ill 28 days ago, and fell asleep in a chair. This was followed by a fever, and the next morning a physician pronounced it a case of typhoid fever. The fever, however, was soon broken, and the child fell into a deep sleep, from which she has not awakened, this being the twenty-sixth day. During this long period a spoonful of whisky and milk has been forced into the child's mouth occasionally, and by that stimulant alone she is kept alive.

The doctor who has charge of the case says that he expects five or six days more will pass before he can rouse the child. During the early part of the girl's life she had an attack of spinal meningitis, and it is thought that this is the chief reason for her comatose state.

ENGLISH CAPITALISTS

To Furnish Money for Pittsburg and Lake Erie Canal.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 16.—English capitalists are willing to build the Pittsburg & Lake Erie canal. John E. Shaw, secretary of the canal commission, admitted the rumor was true to-day and said the commission had authorized the printing of 5,000 reports of 300 pages each, with 100 illustrations. One-half of the number are to be sent to London for distribution among investors. An English syndicate has had representatives here looking over the field and these have gone carefully over the project. The Pittsburg & Lake Erie canal is intended to connect the Ohio river at Rochester with Lake Erie at Ashtabula. It has been figured that the amount of ore and coal traffic will alone pay the dividends on the investment.

NEW BRIDGE AT NIAGARA.

Preparations for Gorgeous Celebration at the Opening.

Niagara Falls, Aug. 11.—The celebration of the opening of the new steel arch bridge here is expected to take place tomorrow and the two following days, but it may suffer a postponement at the 11th hour. The display of fireworks will cost between $15,000 and $20,000. A great pyrotechnical spectacle is planned to make the Niagara gorge resemble a canyon of gold flooded with waters of fire. The new arch bridge supercedes the old suspension affair.

X-Rays in a Murder Case.

Elmira, Aug. 14.—George Orme on July 8 fired a bullet into the brain of James Punzo, who died. Jealousy was the cause. The X-rays were used to locate the bullet. The defendant's attorney now holds that the X-rays caused death. The question will play an important part in the trial.

Torpedo Boat Dupont.

Bristol, R. I., Aug. 12.—The torpedo boat, Dupont, which was given a trial yesterday, exceeded her contract speed by more than a knot. The trip was made under somewhat reduced vacuum The average speed was 28 6 10.

Radway's Pills

PURELY VEGETABLE.

Dr. Radway & Co., New York:

It gives me great pleasure to voluntarily state that your Pills are much superior to others I have tried. Being greatly troubled with headache and costiveness, I find that they give me instant relief, which other Pills could not do.

PETER KIEFER
2536 North 2d st., Philadelphia, Pa.

25c a box. Sold by druggists or sent by mail by RADWAY & CO., 55 Elm st., New York.

TRAINS BY ELECTRICITY.

Successful Tests of the Sprague Multiple System.

Schnectady, N. Y., Aug 14.—General Electric Company officers are showing the working of the Sprague multiple unit system of car traction to Isaac D. Barton, general manager, and C. B. Cornell, chief engineer of the Brooklyn Elevated Railroad. The General Electric Company has an experimental track for the third rail system, and cars belonging to the Southern Road of Chicago have been equipped with the necessary apparatus and are used for the tests.

The cars are all equipped with the new Sprague multiple unit system of control, by which any car is operated from either end by a lever or push button with no automatic returns, something after the method of the Sprague elevator.

By its application any number of cars without regard to sequence or heading may be coupled together and when so coupled instantly controlled from either end of any car. The cars are individual in all details. The object is to so control them that they can be connected together at will and when so connected operated from either end of any car in the train unit.

Underneath each car is a small cable, terminating in a flexible end with a peculiar inter-locking coupling which, no matter what the heading of the cars may be ,so connects the controlling circuits that the directional movement of the controller on the platform always produces the same movement of the car with regard to the track. There is therefore, no such thing as a head or tail of the car. The establishment of this coupling takes less time than the coupling of a single pipe in an ordinary brake system.

The tests made for the brooklyn gentlemen were unusually severe but were in every way satisfactory.

When the Brooklyn road people had watched the workings of the mechanism, the train was tested on accelerations. It takes a Manhattan "L" engine 25 seconds to get going at a rate of fourteen miles an hour. The test train got up a speed of 28 miles an hour in ten seconds; 38 miles in fifteen seconds, and 43½ miles in 20 seconds. This beats all previous records in this direction.

FROM THE FAR NORTH.

Another Story of a Pigeon With Message From Andree.

Berlin, Aug. 17.—The Vossische Zeitung publishes a despatch from Hammerfest, Norway, which says that one of the searchers for Herr Andree in a fast steamer met the sealing vessel Aiken about July 22, and learned from her captain that one of her crew had shot a pigeon between North Cape and Seven Islands on the north coast of Lapland bearing a message addressed to the Aftonbladt Stockholm. The message ran as follows:

"Eighty-two degree passed. Good journey. Northward.

"ANDREE.

The date of the message cannot be ascertained.

The pigeon also carried a letter addressed to the Aftonblade; but the captain of the Aiken declined to surrender either the dispatch or the pigeon and continued his voyage northward. The captain is familiar with Andree's plans and is greatly interested in them.

The news arrived here very indirectly. The captain of the Aiken communicated the information to the commander of the ship Injeperg, of Tromsoe, the latter transmitted the news to the commander of the steamer Express, upon which the Lorner Polar expedition was coming home, and the Express finally passed the news along to the steamer Lofoen, which brought it here.

LOST HIS NERVE.

The Pikes Peak Flying Man Has Skipped Out.

Manitou, Col., Aug. 16.—William B. Felts has mysteriously disappeared. His flying machine with which he was to have attempted the flight from Pike's Peak to Colorado Springs, is still housed on the top of the peak. There have been rumors that Felts' nerve was becoming shaky, which were offset by statements from the professor that he was waiting for a clear day.

Felts went down the mountainside Friday after stating that he was going for a walk, since which time nothing has been seen or heard of him. His friends say he has probably lost his way in the wilderness west of the peak and may have fallen down a precipice and been killed or injured.

They have been searching for him since Friday. The majority, however, are skeptical enough to believe that the professor had not sufficient faith in his own invention.

While they acknowledge the conditions have been unfavorable they think the incident which has created so much excitement for the past two weeks is closed.

SURPRISE WEDDING.

Daughter of Senator Fairbanks Marries Against Parents' Wishes.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 14.—Great surprise followed the announcement here yesterday that Miss Adelaide Fairbanks, only daughter of United States Senator Fairbanks, had been quietly married to Dr. Horace Allen, jr., proprietor of the National Surgical Institute. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Ballard, pastor of the Memorial Presbyterian church, and the only two witnesses were elderly couples, long time friends of the Fairbanks family.

The Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks are out of the city, and, it is said, did not sanction the union of the young people. The arrangements of the latter were so made that even the family servants at the Fairbanks' mansion were not aware that anything unusual was contemplated.

Dr. Allen is a graduate of Yale, and is 31 years of age. His wife is a graduate of the Washington school, and no pains or expense has been spared to make her an ornament to the society in which she moved.

WELL, IT'S HERE.

Some Woolen Mill Employes Who Realize Prosperity.

Chester, Pa., Aug. 16.—The employes of George C. Hetzel & Co. manufacturers of worsted goods, have been notified that the wages paid in 1892 would be restored on September 6th next. The notice was a surprise, as the restoration was granted by the firm without solicitation on the part of the hands.

Hetzel & Co., employ several hundred people. Since 1892 two reductions of wages have been made, aggregating about 20 per cent, and until three weeks ago the mill has been running on half time. The firm has of late received many new orders and the employes are working full time.

NORTH DAKOTA HAPPY.

Good Prices for Grain Bring Prosperity and Joy.

Fargo, N. D., Aug. 13.—The steadily advancing price of wheat with the prospects of a bounteous yield has spread a well defined streak of happiness over the entire state, but the tremendous increase in price the last two days has been the cause of delight. Farmers have already begun to talk dollar wheat by October 1 and if the price reaches that point the wheat farm in Dakota with the yield of this year will be a Klondyke gold mine.

SILVER GOES DOWN.

Mexico Worried as to the Probable Result.

City of Mexico, Aug. 17.—Exchange on New York rose to-day on the fresh drop in silver to 151, and in some cases 140 was asked. Bankers were in doubt as to what rate to make, in view of the condition of the silver market. Dealings were nominal. Exchange on London went to 21¼ pence, the lowest on record, and implying for this government, in meeting the interest on its sterling debt, a loss at the rate of $2,000,000 per annum.

The government can meet this loss by economies and using the surplus funds, but bankers here say the time has come when something must be done, and the debt should pay a lower rate of interest than 6 per cent, and also that Mexico is entitled to relief in view of the punctual payment of her gold interest under trying circumstances. It is not to be denied a very anxious sentiment prevails, as the people have come to expect a still further decline in the value of silver, and many predict it will be forced to a point where the dollar will be worth 30 cents in gold.

Importations will be generally reduced, and all the interests of business except exports will be affected. The commercial crisis is hardly expected, as merchants are not, as a rule, owing heavily abroad. The government and the country are confronting a serious situation, which is the worst for many years.

CREEDE MINERS

Are in Sore Straits on Account of Low Prices.

Denver, Colo., Aug. 16.—It is probable that the great silver mines at Creede, Colo., will be closed down on account of the low price of silver unless railroad and smelting rates are reduced. Several conferences have been held between the mine owners and smelter and railroad officials and it is said the latter evinced a disposition to make every concession possible in order to keep the mines in operation. It is also understood that the miners at Creede are willing to accept a reduction of wages from $3 per day of 8 hours, to $2.75 in wet mines and $2.50 in dry, rather than have the mines closed.

Markets and Crops.

BOOM IN PRICES

Gives Much Strength to the Business Situation.

New York, Aug. 14.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Every city reporting this week notes increase in trade, and nearly all bright crop prospects. The great change in business is emphasized by the presence of a multitude of buyers from all parts of the country, by their statements of the situation at their homes and more forcibly yet by the heavy purchase they are making. But the customary signs of prosperity are not lacking. The strong rise in stocks, the growth of bank clearings and railroad earnings, the heavy speculation in many products, but most of all in wheat, have made the week one of surpassing interest even to those who best remember the upward rush in '79. At the principal clearing houses throughout the country payments during July were for the first time slightly larger than in '92, and 11.0 per cent larger than last year; in the first week of August, 7.7 per cent larger than in '92, and 28.4 per cent larger than last year, and in the second week of August they are 17.9 per cent larger than in '92, and 38.1 per cent larger than last year.

The great crops and the haste of foreigners to buy and ship wheat in view of shortage elsewhere have made the week memorable. Taking of profits by a pool lowered the price 3c on Saturday, but it has since risen 4c.

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AUGUST CROP REPORT.

Grain in Fair Shape—Fruit Not So Good.

Washington, August 11.—The August report of the statistician of the department of agriculture shows the following average condition on August 1:

Corn, 84.2; spring wheat, 85.7; spring rye, 88.8; oats, 86; barley, 87.8; buckwheat, 94.9; tobacco, 78.7; Irish potatoes, 77.9. The condition of corn, 84.2, is 1.3 points higher than last month, 11.8 points lower than on August 1, 1896, and three points lower than the August average for the last ten years.

The principal state averages are: Ohio, 85; Michigan, 85; Indiana, 92; Illinois, 93; Iowa, 78; Missouri, 87; Kansas, 70 (a drop of 20 points during the month), Nebraska, 84; Texas, 88 (a drop of 18 points); Tennessee, 90; Kentucky, 92.

The condition of spring wheat, 86.7, is 4.5 points lower than last month, but 7.8 points higher than on August 1, 1896, and 5 points higher than the August average for the last ten years. There is a decline of two points in Minnesota, 11 in South Dakota, 5 in North Dakota, and 1 in Nebraska.

The average condition of oats is 86, as compared with 87.5 last month, and 77.3 on August 1, 1896.

The average condition of barley is 87.5, as against 88.5 on July 1.

The average condition of spring rye is 89.9, as compared with 90 last month, and 86.8 for the last ten years.

The area in buckwheat is 4.8 per cent less than last year and the condition is 94.9, as compared with 94.5 last year.

The average condition of potatoes has fallen during July from 87 to 77.1, which latter figure is 16.9 points lower than on August 1, 1896.

The condition of tobacco, taking the country as a whole, is practically unchanged, the consolidated returns indicating 78.7 per cent of a full crop, as compared with 78.5 per cent last month. The total area of the crop is 1.9 per cent less than last year. Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin show a slight increase, but this is more than offset by the decrease in Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, the two Dakotas and California.

The condition of the apple crop is in the main very unfavorable. Ohio and Michigan have little more than one-third of a full crop. Pennsylvania slightly under, and New York slightly over one-half a crop. There are few sections of the country that do not report a failure, more or less marked, in the peach crop.

FOREIGN WHEAT CROP.

The Crop Barely Large Enough for Home Consumption.

London, Aug. 16.—The Mark Lane Express, in its weekly review of the grain situation, says: The French wheat harvest over yield is estimated at 33,000,000 quarters, though excellent judges say it is not so much.

The German yield is expected to be 1,000,000 quarters below that of 1896.

Austria-Hungary will be almost self-supporting, with nothing to spare for export.

Russia reports that her wheat is somewhat below the average, though not seriously so.

In conclusion the Mark Lane Express notes the curious fact that England last week exported wheat to France.

WOOL HIGHER.

Tariff Has Added Ten Cents to the Farmer's Profit This Year.

Cadiz, O., Aug. 14.—The activeness in the sale of wool in Harrison county, the banner wool growing county in the state, is evidence indisputable of the value to the wool grower of the new tariff schedule. C. M. Hogg & Son, in the past few days, have purchased from the growers in this neighborhood 35,000 pounds of wool, for which was paid 25 cents per pound. For the same class of wool last year these farmers were paid only from 15 to 18 cents.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Sept. 17, 1897.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Aug. 17.	Aug. 19
U. S. 4's (new) coupons	124½	125½
U. S. 4's (new) registered	125	125½
U. S. 5's coupons	113¼	113½
U. S. 5's registered	113¼	113½
U. S. 4's coupons	111¾	112¼
U. S. 4's registered	111¾	111¾
U. S. 2's registered	97½	97½
Pacific 6's of '98	102	102

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Wheat opened at a pretty sharp decline today at Chicago, ¾c to 1c, the principal factor being weak Liverpool markets. New York started with a better tone than Chicago, but soon there was weakness all along the line. Trade was dull and the markets were nervous. After trade had proceeded for some time there was an improvement of ⅝c on the opening figures, but toward noon weakness again set in. The heavy exports given out to-day had not the usual effect of good exports helping the markets. Traders had come to believe that the time for a reaction had come, and the small ending day decline was determined effort made to put prices up. Near the close there was a break that put prices down 1¼c from the opening. The decline was a natural one.

Corn was dull and featureless. There is a good demand for cash wheat in all markets.

Prices of wheat to-day:

Sept.	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
Toledo	85¾	85¾	85	85
Chicago	84¾	85¾	81⅝	83¾
New York	91¾	91¾	90	90
St. Louis	91¾	91¾	88¾	88¾

At Chicago August wheat was worth 84¼c, December, 83¾c. At Toledo August closed at 85¾c. New York December wheat opened at 90¾c, fell to 88¼c and closed at 88¾c. At St. Louis December wheat opened at 89¾c, rose to 89¾c and closed at 88¾c.

A leading Chicago man says it looks as if wheat would reach 75c.

September puts at Chicago on wheat at 1.20, 82¾@82¾c calls, 84¾c.

Pork at Chicago for August $8.17, nominal; September, $8.02, close, $8.17@8.20.

Lard at Chicago for September, $4.45, close, $4.45@4.47.

Oats at Chicago for September, 17¾c; close 17¾c asked.

Export clearances: Wheat, 646,283 bushels, flour, 29,000 barrels, or wheat and flour as wheat, 717,188 bushels.

Ryvoll, Bartlett, Gates & Co.'s man, says: I believe foreign markets are ready for a good reaction in wheat.

Bradstreet's shows: East, U. S. decrease 1,050,000 bushels; Europe, increase, 1,880,000. Corn, increase, 2,882,000. Oats, decrease 422,000.

Corn was lower on favorable weather. There was active liquidation for a time. Prices closed a trifle steadier, after values were lowest of the day. At Chicago August corn was worth 27¾, September, 28¾, 27⅞, then 28⅝ bid. December, 29¾@29⅝, close, 29⅝@29¾c.

At New York September, 29¾c, then 29¾c bid,